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Japan

Reportage on Middle East Situation Continues

Japanese Advised To Leave Gulf

OW0908115990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1110 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 KYODO—The government on Thursday advised all Japanese nationals near Saudi Arabia's border with Iraq and Kuwait to prepare to evacuate the area, while recommending that dependents and other "nonessentials" go immediately to the Saudi capital of Riyadh or leave the country altogether.

The government also advised nonessential Japanese nationals to consider leaving the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Bahrain because of the "fluid situation" in the region stemming from Iraq's invasion of Kuwait last Thursday and the subsequent dispatch of U.S. forces to Saudi Arabia.

As for Iraq, the government advised Japanese nationals who are there as tourists, transit passengers, or on a short-term basis to leave "as soon as possible." Officials said the Japanese Embassy in Baghdad is working to facilitate their departure.

The government urged Japanese long-term residents in Iraq to apply for Iraqi exit visas and Jordanian entry permits so as to be ready for any opportunity to leave the country. The Transport Ministry, meanwhile, said it has asked Japan airlines to send a special flight to Kuwait to rescue 276 Japanese stranded there since the Iraqi invasion.

Arabian Oil Co To Boost Output

OW0908124790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1208 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 KYODO—Japan's biggest oil producer, Arabian Oil Co., said Thursday it will increase its output by around 100,000 barrels per day (b-d) to up to 350,000 (b-d) beginning with the September delivery. The move is aimed at easing mounting pressure on the oil market amid the tension in the Persian Gulf.

The Tokyo-based company, which produces oil in the neutral zone in the border area between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, also said it will maintain its production level of 250,000 to 260,000 b-d for the time being.

Our production and exports are not subject to Japan's ban on oil imports from Iraq and Kuwait," a company official said, referring to Japanese sanctions imposed Sunday following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait last week. The embargo is expected to cut Japan's oil imports by a total of 450,000 b-d, generating fears of another oil shock in Japan, which depends on imports for virtually all of its oil.

The company was established in 1958 under a joint venture with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and began production in 1961 at two oil wells in the border area with a daily capacity of 400,000 b-d. It produced 200,000-220,000 b-d during the April-June period and increased output to 250,000-260,000 b-d in July, most of which is exported to Japan.

Despite the tense situation in the region, the company is continuing production with about 100 staff and 1,800 local laborers. Employees of most other Japanese companies have already begun to leave the area.

Firms Switch Oil Supply Sources

OW0908142690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1405 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 KYODO—Japanese petroleum companies have switched imports of 7.5 million barrels of crude oil to Iran and Abu Dhabi, government sources said Thursday.

They made the decision in response to the government's ban on oil imports from Iraq and Kuwait, the sources said. A similar volume of oil was to have been shipped by the companies from Iraq and Kuwait this month. Following the ban, five petroleum companies, including Nippon Oil Co. and Idemitsu Kosan, have canceled their planned import of six million barrels of crude oil from Iraq, and will instead import the same volume from Iran, the sources said.

Two other petroleum firms have also switched imports of about 1.5 million barrels of crude oil from Kuwait to Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates, the sources added.

Citizens Depart From Gulf Area

OW1108121090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1115 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—About half of Japanese nationals in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have left the countries under government advice to leave the Persian Gulf countries, the Foreign Ministry said on Saturday. There still are 211 Japanese in Saudi Arabia, 113 in Bahrain, 63 in Qatar, and 332 in UAE, the ministry said.

The government on Thursday advised all Japanese nationals near Saudi Arabia's border with Iraq and Kuwait to prepare to evacute the area following Iraq's invasion and occupation of Kuwait.

The Foreign Ministry dispatched an official to Jordan on Saturday to help Japanese who are evacuating from Iraq, officials said. Another Foreign Ministry official will leave for Jordan Saturday night. The ministry will send an official to Saudi Arabia on Sunday, officials said.

The Foreign Ministry said a group of 23 Japanese tourists trapped in Iraq arrived in the Jordanian capital of Amman on Thursday. Eleven Japanese who were in Iraq on business have entered Jordan.

Arab Decision on Troops Welcomed

OW1108122290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1212 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—Japan on Saturday welcomed an Arab summit decision which denounced Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and to send an Arab force to defend Saudi Arabia against Iraqi troops. A top Foreign Ministry official said Japan appreciated the Arab summit's majority decision.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told reporters he will closely watch developments in the Persian Gulf region before coming to a decision whether or not he will embark on a 13-day tour on Wednesday of Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Jordan, and Egypt as scheduled.

Kaifu will summon in Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and senior Foreign Ministry bureaucrats to his official residence as early as on Sunday to decide whether or not to cancel the Mideast trip, government sources said.

The top Foreign Ministry official said Japan cannot send its troops to the Persian Gulf to join a United States-led multinational force, pointing to constitutional constraints. The war-renouncing Constitution clearly bans Japan from sending troops abroad, he noted.

The Japanese Government cannot say at this moment whether it would provide some assistance to the multilateral force, said the official speaking on condition of anonymity. A separate Foreign Ministry source said Japan has received no request from abroad for assistance to the multilateral force, adding that under the Constitution it would be very difficult to provide financial assistance for military purposes.

The country's leading newspaper ASAHI SHIMBUN reported on Saturday that the government is studying on whether it could extend financial assistance to the force.

Postponement of Kaifu Middle East Tour Reported

Nakayama on Canceling Kaifu Trip

OW1008162590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1518 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama will advise Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Sunday to cancel his trip to the Middle East, Foreign Ministry sources said Friday.

Sources cited the possibility of military conflict during the five-nation visit as well as Kaifu's personal safety and the safety of Japanese nationals in Kuwait and Iraq as reasons for calling off the visit. Nakayama arrived at the decision Friday night after conferring with top ministry officials.

Meanwhile, a Middle East diplomatic source said Egypt has been looking forward to Kaifu's visit as a contribution to solving broader peace problems, despite heightened tensions following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2.

Though Kaifu's visit might not play a major role in resolving tensions due to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, Egypt welcomes Japan's involvement in broader issues of peace in the Middle East, the diplomat said. "Japan is a power now in the international economy and consequently a rising power in international theater, so we welcome an international role for Japan," the source said.

Kaifu is scheduled to make a 13-day swing through Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Jordan, and Egypt. Japan's Foreign Ministry officials have billed the trip, the first to the region by a Japanese premier in 12 years, as a departure from its petroleum diplomacy, and an expression of Japan's willingness to play a larger international political role.

When former Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda visited the Middle East in 1978 he traveled only to oil-producing countries.

Kaifu expressed his determination to go ahead with the trip on Thursday, but there are skeptics in the government who feel the visit would be unproductive if Japan could not make a major contribution to resolving the Iraqi crisis.

Decision Announced 13 Aug

OW1208233890 Tokyo KYODO in English 2319 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu decided on Monday to postpone his planned August 15-27 trip to Saudi Arabia and four other Middle Eastern countries due to the developments in the region since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2, government sources said. Instead, Kaifu will send Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama to the region.

Kaifu was slated to depart Wednesday for Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Jordan, and Egypt. He was also scheduled to make stopovers in Thailand and Finland.

Kaifu had expressed strong desire to go ahead with his scheduled tour during talks Sunday with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and other aides.

Kaifu wanted Japan to be seen playing a role in responding to the international crisis, but Foreign Ministry officials advised him to cancel the tour because of the lack of Japanese preparedness to contribute to the resolution of the Middle East confrontation, the sources said. The visit might also irritate Iraq and jeopardize the safety of several hundred Japanese still in Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait, according to the sources.

Kaifu and his aides are also believed to have discussed how to respond to any requests during the trip to assist

foreign armed forces deployed in Saudi Arabia. The Japanese Constitution prohibits the dispatch of Japanese troops overseas, government officials said.

The prime minister intends to ask the foreign minister to carry with him letters addressed to leaders of the countries Kaifu was scheduled to visit informing them of his desire to reschedule the trip as soon as events permit, the sources said.

Nakayama To Go in Kaifu's Place

OW1308084990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0817 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu decided to postpone his scheduled tour of the Middle East till autumn while Japan considers measures to contribute to regional stability after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, a top government spokesman said Monday.

In his place, Kaifu will dispatch Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama to consult with five Middle Eastern nations on Japan's response to the invasion, Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said. "Our original goals had to be changed, and the situation is very volatile," Sakamoto said in a specially convened press conference.

At the Foreign Ministry, a ranking official said Nakayama would leave as soon as possible, probably within the week.

Middle East and African Affairs Bureau head Makoto Watanabe said the government would take into consideration Nakayama's discussions with Mideast leaders in developing concrete measures to assist the multilateral force being deployed to Saudi Arabia. But the official was tight-lipped on the options being considered, denying that any requests had been made by the United States or other nations for specific Japanese action and declining to make any comments that might restrict future options.

In response to a query on the possibility of dispatching warships, Watanabe said Japan would "examine all possible measures while observing the Constitution."

Japan's postwar peace Constitution is generally interpreted as forbidding the deployment of its Self-Defense Force (SDF) overseas, but the country did consider dispatching mine sweepers to the Persian Gulf in 1988 to protect shipping at the height of the Iran-Iraq war. The Foreign Ministry at that time said such a move was not contrary to constitutional limits. Japan did increase aid to Mideast moderates Oman and Jordan, offer a 10-million-dollar navigational network to Gulf states and boost host-nation support for U.S. troops stationed here during the Gulf shipping crisis.

Past Japanese contributions to United Nations peacekeeping operations include the dispatch of observers to Afghanistan and the Iran-Iraq border in 1988, and most recently a team to monitor elections in Namibia.

Watanabe declined to give a time frame for a decision on Japanese measures, but said Kaifu's visit, expected in October, might be considered an outside time limit. "Nobody expects the whole thing to be resolved in a month and a half."

Opposition parties offered mixed reactions to the postponement of Kaifu's visit, with the leading Japan Socialist Party (JSP) criticizing the slow response to the crisis and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) describing it as a "diplomatic failure." The centrist Komeito, however, stood by Kaifu's decision, saying it was "inevitable" given the situation.

Sakamoto said Kaifu wanted to offer "something more substantial" than encouragement on his trip and that the possible increased risk for Japanese nationals still in Iraq and Kuwait had not been a major factor in the postponement.

Kaifu was scheduled to visit Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Jordan, and Egypt from August 15 to 27. Officials hope to reschedule the trip for early October.

Trip To Be Rescheduled in Fall

OW1308043390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0353 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu postponed his Middle East trip until autumn because Japan needs time to consider ways to contribute to regional peace following Iraq's annexation of Kuwait, the top government spokesman said Monday.

In his place, Kaifu will dispatch Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama to discuss with leaders of the five host countries how Japan can assist them in light of the recent hostilities, Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said.

Kaifu said he opted to postpone the August 15-27 trip because its original purpose of deepening friendship was no longer appropriate after the Iraqi takeover of its oil-rich neighbor. "Our original goals had to be changed, and the situation is very volatile," Sakamoto explained to reporters.

Sakamoto, addressing a specially convened news conference, said that Japan would like to reschedule the visit to Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Jordan, and Egypt for early October, after Kaifu travels to the United Nations to attend a special conference on children. The prime minister is also expected to confer with U.S. President George Bush at that time, Sakamoto said.

"If (Kaifu) were to go to the Middle East as planned he would provide encouragement, but it is better to do something more substantial," Sakamoto said. "Words are clouds, but deeds are rain," Sakamoto said, citing an Arab proverb.

The spokesman declined to discuss what kind of aid Japan might provide, but said it would be in keeping

with Japan's "peace" Constitution, which forbids deploying military forces overseas.

Sakamoto said that the possible increased risk for Japanese nationals who have been unable to flee Iraq and Kuwait was not a major factor in the decision to delay Kaifu's trip. He noted that there are other foreign nationals besides Japanese stranded in Iraq and Kuwait, and Japan has already joined the international community in imposing a strict trade embargo.

Foreign Ministry officials had expressed concern that Kaifu's visit could further anger Iraq, and jeopardize the safety of several hundred Japanese.

Sakamoto said the government is contacting host governments to inform them of Japan's change of plans.

Sakurauchi, Solovyev Discuss Coronation, Ties

OW1008085990 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Outgoing Soviet Ambassador to Japan Solovyev indicated that the Soviet Union will likely be represented by USSR Supreme Soviet Chairman Lukyanov at his majesty the emperor's coronation ceremony scheduled for November. Ambassador Solovyev indicated this prospect during a farewell call he paid on House of Representatives Speaker Sakurauchi this morning.

The Soviet ambassador said that, although no official decision has yet been made, in his personal opinion, he thinks Supreme Soviet Chairman Lukyanov will represent the Soviet Union at his majesty the emperor's coronation ceremony, which is scheduled for 12 November.

Bringing up the northern territories issue, Speaker Sakurauchi said that opinions are divided on whether the resolution of the northern territories issue should be placed at the beginning or at the end of Japanese-Soviet negotiations. The House of Representative speaker added that, in his personal view, he thinks the two countries need to improve their bilateral relations in all the areas of politics, the economy and culture.

Agreeing with Speaker Sakurauchi's view, the Soviet ambassador said that the two countries need to improve their relations in all areas. He then indicated the view that the resolution of the northern territories issue should be sought in the course of promoting progress in economic cooperation and in all other areas of Japan-Soviet relations.

Banks Refuse To Make New Loans to Venezuela

OW1008120390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1141 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—Japanese banks will not make new loans to Venezuela because they are dissatisfied with the progress of its economic restructuring, international banking sources said Friday. Instead, the banks will choose other options in a five-point debt relief plan advanced by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, including a 30-percent reduction in the principal the sources said.

The decision is based on a perception that the Venezuelan economy has shown little improvement despite higher oil prices, they said. Venezuela's medium- to long-term foreign debts total about 20 billion dollars, 20 percent of which is owed to 30 Japanese banks.

Boat Skipper To Appeal Sub Collision Ruling

OW1008135890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1235 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—The skipper of a sports fishing boat in which 30 people drowned when it collided with a submarine in Tokyo Bay said Friday he will appeal to Tokyo High Court against a maritime court's ruling on the accident. The nation's top maritime court ruled earlier Friday that the skipper, Manji Kondo, 32, bears equal blame with Cmdr. Keisuke Yamashita of the Maritime Self-Defense Force Submarine Nadashio.

The high marine accidents inquiry agency overturned a lower court ruling that placed most of the blame on Yamashita, 41, the captain of the 2,200-ton submarine. Kondo, the skipper of the fishing boat the No. 1 Fuji Maru, said he will appeal against the decision because the agency made mistakes in judging how the collision occurred. In the decision, the chief administrative judge, Michio Kimishima, said that both Yamashita and Kondo failed to take sufficient measures to avert the collision and upheld a one-month licence suspension imposed by the lower court on Kondo.

The High Agency, which is equivalent to a high court in criminal trials, did not, however, administer any reprimand or warning to the skipper of the submarine or to its fleet submarine force command.

The Yokohama Local Marine Accidents Inquiry Agency, the lower court, ordered on July 25 last year that Kondo's license be suspended for one month and issued a warning to the Submarine Command for insufficient management control of its fleet. The maritime court inquiry was called to decide why the submarine and the fishing boat collided July 23, 1988, why 28 passengers and two crew among the 48 aboard the boat drowned, and to apportion responsibility for the disaster.

Friday's decision came after 14 hearings in May that followed the Yokohama Agency decision that put most of the blame on the submarine and pointed to the insufficient guidance given the submarine captain by the fleet command.

No action was taken against Fuji Shoji Co., the owner-operator of the No. 1 Fuji Maru because it has gone out of business.

The High Agency's ruling marked the end of the marine court trial on the case. Marine accident inquiries can only make recommendations, not impose binding action, on Maritime Self-Defense Force vessels or their operators.

The Maritime Safety Agency has sent papers on Yamashita and Kondo to the Yokohama District Public Prosecutor's Office regarding the question of whether they were professionally negligent. Friday's decision is expected to strongly influence the prosecutor's decision whether to take further action.

North Korea

Iraq's Action 'Contrary' to International Law

SK1208091290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0856 GMT 12 Aug 90

["Recourse to Arms Must Not Be Allowed"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—The Iraq-Kuwait dispute must be settled peacefully, not militarily, says NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today.

Noting that the "annexation" of Kuwait by Iraq is quite contrary to the international law and the principles and norm governing relations among countries, the commentary stresses that such phenomenon must not be allowed in any part of the world or to anybody.

Recalling that outside forces are now trying to intervene in the Iraq-Kuwait dispute and fish in troubled waters, the commentary continues:

The United States, while crying for the organization of "multinational armed forces", is going to make the dispute in this region an international issue by hurling even armed forces of its allies into the Gulf.

The ill-boding military moves of outside forces in the Gulf pose a big threat to peace and security in this region and the rest of the world. Attempts to make the situation in the Gulf an international issue must be rejected and all the military actions in this region be stopped at once.

The commentary voices full support for the stand of the Arab countries to settle the Iraq-Kuwait dispute by the efforts of the region itself and expresses the belief that this conflict would be surely solved within the framework of the Arab League.

South Infiltrates Battleship 'Flotilla' 10 Aug

SK1108110190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppets perpetrated a military provocation by illegally infiltrating a flotilla of battle ships deep into the territorial waters on the West Sea of our side on August 10.

A fishing boat belonging to the Haeju fisheries station was engaged in routine fishing on the territorial waters west of Changsan Cape on the western coast.

At around 08:35, three battleships of the South Korean puppet Navy suddenly approached our fishing boat, encircling it from the direction of the Paengnyong island in an attempt to kidnap it.

When our fishing boat sailed northward at full speed to escape from the dangerous situation, the battleships of the puppet Navy chased it, threatening the peaceful fishing boat of our side and closing in upon it.

Upon receiving the urgent report, patrol craft of the Navy of the Korean people's Army on routine guard duty to defend with vigilance the sea posts of our socialist motherland quickly made a sortie to the spot.

Finding it difficult to fulfil their sinister purpose, the battleships hurriedly fled southward.

Such frequent intrusion of battleships into our western waters openly committed by the South Korean puppets is premeditated provocations to deliberately heighten the tension on the Korean peninsula, going against North-South dialogue and seeking only confrontation and division.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets must stop at once the intrusion of battleships and all other military provocations against the northern half of Korea.

Their criminal moves cannot but be considered more serious as they are undertaken at a time when the desire for reunification is running higher than ever before among the Korean people in the North and South and overseas on the threshold of the August 15 pan-national rally.

If they, headless of our repeated warnings, seek confrontation and war, persistently resorting to the policy of strength, they will have to bear full responsibility for all the consequencies arising from this.

N-S Maneuvers on Rally Continue; More Arrive

Preparatory Committee's Message

SK1108153690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1515 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—The North side's preparatory committee for the pan-national rally today sent a radio message to the South side's promotion headquarters.

The message says:

At this juncture when the August 15 pan-national rally is coming at hand, Korean compatriots residing in North America, Europe, the Soviet Union, China, Japan and other regions are arriving in Pyongyang one after another

across oceans and continents, carrying the desire of the entire nation for reunification with them.

But, it is pitiful that only the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters who initiated the rally itself and has made efforts for its successful holding for about two years are still barred from participating in it, although they are within a calling distance.

Fortunately, the delegates of the North and the overseas sides are all pleased to hear that your headquarters is going to dispatch its General Secretary Cho Song-u and two suite members to Pyongyang on August 13 for working-level discussion.

We pay respects to your promotion headquarters for having made every possible effort, not abandoning even under the difficult circumstances your will to send delegates to the historical pan-national rally at any cost and, at the same time, welcome and support your intention to dispatch a delegation to Pyongyang.

In this connection, we would be pleased if all six delegates of the South side to the preliminary contact including general secretary Cho Song-u come to Pyongyang, accompanied by two suite members, although all the preparations for the pan-national rally and the events to be held around it have been completed as the third preliminary contact ended with success.

Assuring you once again that if your delegation visits Pyongyang, we will warmly greet it with compatriotic feelings, provide it all conveniences and guarantee its personal safety, we hope that your side will inform us of the list of your delegation.

North American Group Arrives

SK1208091590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0850 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—The second batch of the delegation of Koreans in North America to the pan-national rally headed by co-chairman of the promotion headquarters in North America for the rally Yu Tae-yong arrived here Saturday.

Arriving on the same day was the second batch of the delegation of the promotion headquarters in Japan.

The delegations were met at the airport by Yo Yon-ku and Kim Yong-ho, vice-chairmen of the North side's preparatory committee for the rally, and other officials concerned.

They were warmly welcomed by citizens of the capital.

Chongnyon Addresses Media

SK1208082590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0905 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—The delegation of Koreans from Japan to the pan-national rally, hoping to join in visiting those in South Korean prison who had been to the North, called a press conference at Pyongyang Koryo Hotel today.

In the press conference head of the delegation So Man-sol, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), issued a statement to the press.

Upon hearing the moving story that compatriots in the homeland now wish to go to see and console woman student Yim Su-kyong, the Rev. [Reverend] Mun Ik-hwan and Father Mun Kyu-hyon who are now suffering behind the bars in South Korea, our delegation of Koreans which has come to Pyongyang from Japan to participate in the PNR [Pan-National Rally] for Peace and Reunification of the Country manifests its intention to join in this, he said.

He noted that in this regard the delegation readily accepted the unanimous requests of its members, discussed this matter with the Korean committee of struggle for the release of Yim Su-kyong and reached an agreement that they would accompany it.

Pointing out that the offer to send a consolation team to Yim Su-kyong has evoked deep sympathy from among Koreans overseas as well as compatriots in the homeland, touching off a wave of emotions all over the country, he urged the South Korean authorities to accept our offer unconditionally before it is too late, if they have an iota of national conscience.

Denouncing the unreasonable talk of the South Korean authorities that those who had visited the North cannot be allowed for an interview because they are "people in jail," he said if they dampen even the ardent desire of our Koreans overseas who have come from afar, they would leave an indelible crime in the history of the nation.

We will brilliantly adorn the pan-national rally as a historical rally for peace of the country and accelerating its reunification and make painstaking efforts to directly go and see and console the messengers of reunification in South Korea who are suffering in prison and to encourage them in their struggle to defend with fortitude their faith of reunification and patriotism and constancy even behind the bars, he stressed.

Then, he informed newsmen that a consolation team was formed with seven members of the delegation of Koreans in Japan.

Members of the delegation answered questions put by reporters.

ROK Position Criticized

SK1208123390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1113 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities must refrain from mocking the fellow countrymen any longer and take practical steps for travel

if they have a modicum of national conscience, says a joint statement issued today by the North side's preparatory committee for the pan-national rally, the Korean student committee, the Korean committee of struggle for the release of Yim Su-Kyong and the measure committee for the rescue of the Rev. [Reverend] Mun Ik-hwan.

Noting that 20 days have passed since the South Korean chief executive brought forward "a proposal for inter-Korean exchanges of people" in his "special announcement," the statement says it was a period when they have maliciously tried by hook or by crook to block North-South exchanges.

Recalling that these days when this "special announcement" has been reduced to a mere wastepaper before the face of the world the South Korean authorities are making quite a noise about "registration of applicants for visit to the North," "exchange of lists of names" and the like as if they were working for the realization of North- South exchange, in an effort to extricate themselves from the unfavorable position, the statement says:

Although the South Korean authorities are making much ado as if they were interested in North-South exchange, it is nothing but a clumsy drama aimed at foiling the pan-national rally which will be held amid great expectations and interest of the Koreans in the North and South and abroad, at misleading the public opinion at home and abroad which demands the demolition of the concrete wall and free travel and full-scale opening between the North and the South, and at defusing their serious political uncertainty and ruling crisis.

Immediately the July 20 "special announcement" was published the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF), upon authorization, issued a statement clarifying the stand that it will consider the "proposal for inter-Korean exchanges of people" for five days around the 15th of August though on a limited scale if the South Korean authorities pull down the concrete wall barring North-South travels, abolish the "National Security Law," release those who have been imprisoned for visiting the North and refrain from obstructing the August 15 pan- national rally.

This is a manifestation of the sincere stand toward substantially realizing free travel and full-scale opening between the North and the South, and what attitude the South Korean authorities take toward it is a touchstone showing whether the "proposal for inter-Korean exchanges of people" is true or not.

The South Korean authorities, however, have accepted none of the points laid down in the statement of the CPRF and rather resorted to thinly-veiled tricks to mock the nation.

The South Korean authorities announced that they would "allow" our delegation to go to Seoul for the second preliminary contact for the preparation of the pan-national rally, but blocked the way of the delegation when it arrived in Panmunjom. And they talked that they would "approve" the "Chonminnyon" delegates' participation in the third preliminary contact, but, in actuality, intercepted their northern trip at the point of bayonet.

Notably, when we demanded the release of those who had visited the North, they transferred woman student Yim Su-kyong and the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan to Chongju and Chonju prisons far away from Seoul, inflicting double and treble mental and physical sufferings upon them, and even committed such a thrice-cursed brutal act as "haircut ceremony" against the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan in his seventies.

This is an unbearable challenge to the desire and demand of all the fellow countrymen for the release of the envoys of reunification and an unpardonable criminal act against national reconciliation and unity.

All facts clearly show that the "proposal for inter-Korean exchanges of people" brought forward by the South Korean authorities is a sham and it is a propaganda advertisement to deceive public opinion at home and abroad.

Upset by louder voices critical of the "special announcement" and by the pan-national rally which is successfully drawing nearer amid the interest of all the fellow countrymen, the South Korean authorities are now resorting to such farce as "receiving applications for visit to the North". However, such a trick will never work in the bright world, just as it was brought to light when they refused to accept the applications for a visit to the North by the students belonging to the Seoul district federation of general student councils and the national Roman Catholic priests group for justice.

The South Korean authorities must pull down the cursed concrete wall barring contact and travel between the North and the South, scrap the "National Security law," an anti- reunification fascist law, and release woman student Yim Su-kyong, the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, Father Mun Kyu-hyon and other people who had visited the North and all the patriotic students and people.

We will watch the moves of the South Korean authorities from now on.

'Joint Statement' Decries South

SK1308045890 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 12 Aug 90

["Joint statement" by the North side's preparatory committee for the pan-national rally, the Korean student committee, the Korean committee of struggle for the release of Yim Su-kyong, and measure committee for the rescue of the Reverend Mun Ik-hwan issued in Pyongyang on 12 August—read by announcer]

[Text] Twenty days have passed since the person in authority in South Korea brought forward in his special statement a proposal for so-called national exchanges of people. It was a period when the fictitious nature of the

special announcement was fully exposed and those driven into a corner maliciously tried by hook or crook to block North-South exchanges.

At a time when this special announcement has been reduced to mere wastepaper before all the world, the South Korean authorities are making quite a noise about registration of applicants for visits to the North, exchange of lists of names and the like as if they were working for the realization of North-South exchange, in an effort to extricate themselves from the unfavorable position. This, however, merely serves as another occasion for more clearly showing their splittist nature.

The North side's preparatory committee for the pan-national rally, the Korean student committee, the Korean committee of struggle for the release of Yim Su-kyong, and the measure committee for the rescue of the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan brand the cunning trick of the South Korean authorities, who are persistently maneuvering to block free travel and full-scale opening as an intolerable crime ridiculing the people, and sternly denounce it in the name of all the people.

Although the South Korean authorities are making much noise as if they were interested in North-South exchange, this is nothing but a clumsy drama aimed at foiling the pan-national rally, which will be held amid the great expectations and interest of the Koreans in the North, South, and abroad; at misleading public opinion at home and abroad, which demands the demolition of the concrete wall and free travel and full-scale opening between the North and the South; and at defusing their serious political uncertainty and ruling crisis.

Immediately after the 20 July special announcement was published, the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF], upon authorization, issued a statement clarifying the stand that it will consider the proposal for national exchanges of people for five days around 15 August though on a limited scale if the South Korean authorities pull down the concrete wall barring North-South travel, abolish the National Security Law, release those who have been imprisoned for visiting the North, and refrain from obstructing the 15 August pan-national rally.

This is a manifestation of the sincere stand toward substantially realizing free travel and full-scale opening between the North and the South, and what attitude the South Korean authorities take toward it is a touchstone showing whether their proposal for so- called national exchange of people is legitimate.

The South Korean authorities, however, have accepted none of the points laid down in CPRF statement and instead have resorted to thinly veiled tricks to mock the nation.

The South Korean authorities announced that they would allow our delegation to go to Seoul for the second preliminary contact for the preparation of the pan-national rally, but blocked the delegation's way when it arrived in Panmunjom. They said they would approve the participation of the delegates of the National Democratic Alliance of Korea [Chonminnyon] in the third preliminary contact, but, in actuality, intercepted their northern trip at the point of bayonet.

Frightened by the visit of six delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters to Pyongyang to participate in the third preliminary contact, the fascist clique blocked all roads to Panmunjom by mobilizing about 5,000 policemen and frantically maneuvered to do checks and searches by even setting up barricades at checkpoints. The fascist clique committed without hesitation the unprecedentedly violent gangster act of pulling with a large-size tractor the car carrying Chonminnyon's cochairmen.

The fascist clique also perpetrated a rude act of refusing to receive the telephone call from the North side's delegation and unilaterally hanging up the receiver, thus committing acts that run counter even to common sense.

In particular, when we demanded the release of those who had visited the North, the fascist clique transferred woman student Yim Su-kyong and the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan to Chongju and Chonju prisons far away from Seoul, inflicting double and triple mental and physical sufferings upon them, and even committed such a thrice-cursed brutal act as a haircut ceremony against the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, who is in his seventies.

This is an unbearable challenge to the desire and demand of all the fellow countrymen for the release of the envoys of reunification and an unpardonable criminal act against national reconciliation and unity.

All facts clearly show that the proposal for national exchanges of people brought forward by the South Korean authorities is a sham and it is a propaganda advertisement to deceive public opinion at home and abroad.

Upset by louder voices critical of the special announcement and by the pan-national rally, which is successfully drawing nearer amid the interest of all the fellow countrymen, the South Korean authorities are now resorting to such a farce as receiving applications for visits to the North. Such a trick, however, will never work in this bright world, just as it was brought to light when they refused to accept the applications for a visit to the North by the students belonging to the Seoul District Federation of General Student Councils and the National Roman Catholic Priests Group for Justice.

If the South Korean authorities resort to political smear for blocking travel and reunification as in the past, ignoring the people's aspiration and will to realize free travel and open the door of reunification, they will not escape the stern denunciation and rejection by all the fellow countrymen.

The South Korean authorities, if they have a national conscience, even in the slightest degree, should no longer

commit acts ridiculing the fellow countrymen and should take practical steps for sincerely realizing travel.

The South Korean authorities must pull down the cursed concrete wall barring contact and travel between the North and the South, scrap the National Security Law, an antireunification fascist law, and release woman student Yim Su-kyong, the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, Father Mun Kyu-hyon and other people who had visited the North and all patriotic students and people.

No matter how persistently the South Korean authorities wage the anticommunist slanderous maneuvers, free travel and full-scale opening will be realized without fail thanks to the united strength of all of the reunification forces in the North, the South, and overseas.

We will watch the moves of the South Korean authorities from now on.

12 August 1990, Pyongyang

Safeguard by North MAC Asked

SK1308003990 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0000 GMT 13 Aug 90

["Letter of request" from chairman of the North side's preparatory committee for pan-national rally to the senior member of the DPRK-PRC side to the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) on 13 August—read by announcer]

[Text] To Major General Choe Ui-ung, senior member of the DPRK-PRC side to the MAC:

As is widely known, 15 August marks the 45th anniversary of the national liberation, and a pan-national rally for peace and reunification of the nation will be held in grand fashion in Panmunjom, participated in by representatives of patriotic nationalist democratic movements in the North, the South, and overseas.

This rally will be the first reunification festival since the fatherland was divided, in which fellow countrymen from all walks of life in the North, the South, and overseas have participated. It will be held amid great expectations and interest of all fellow countrymen and the people of the world.

What emerges as an important issue in this connection is ensuring the successful holding of the 15 August pan-national rally and the personal safety of all delegates attending the rally.

Today, the South Korean authorities are obstructing the successful holding of the pan-national rally in every way, regarding it as a thorn in their flesh.

Under this condition, we hope that the DPRK-PRC side to the MAC, which is responsible for maintaining security and order in the joint security area at Panmunjom, will take appropriate steps to ensure security of the rally and the participants in the rally during the period of the pan-national rally.

[Signed] Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the North side's preparatory committee for the pan-national rally

13 August 1990

North MAC Promises Safety

SK1308044090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0315 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Press statement by Major General Choe Ui-ung, senior member of the side of the Korean People's Army and Chinese People's Volunteers to the Military Armistice Commission [MAC] on 13 August—read by announcer]

[Text] As already known, in connection with the pan-national rally to be held in Panmunjom on 15 August for peace of the fatherland and for peaceful reunification, the North side's preparatory committee requested that appropriate steps be taken for the successful convocation of the rally and for guaranteeing the safety of the delegates.

The side of the Korean People's Army [KPA] and Chinese People's Volunteers [CPV] to the Military Armistice Commission accepts the request and, as one of the parties responsible for the entry into and exit from the Joint Security Area [JSA] in Panmunjom, promises according to its jurisdiction that it will make every effort to guarantee the success of the pan-national rally in Panmunjom and the delegates' safety.

The pan-national rally, which is going to be held at a time when the desire for reunification is growing more ardently than ever among the compatriots in the North, South, and abroad, will become an important opportunity to accelerate national unity and the peaceful reunification of the country.

This notwithstanding, the divisionists who do not desire reunification are currently unhappy about the pan-national rally to be held in Panmunjom and are scheming to thwart it.

This arouses grave concern among the compatriots in the North, South, and abroad who want the pan-national rally to be a success.

Under these circumstances, to guarantee safety and order in Panmunjom during the pan-national rally, we make it clear that entry into and exit from our side's area in Panmunjom will be allowed and personal safety will be guaranteed only for those delegates who are supposed to attend the pan-national rally.

In this connection, we will allow entry and exit on the basis of confirming that the delegates to the pan-national rally wear designated nameplates identifying them as delegates. For those who do not wear such nameplates, entry and exit will be allowed only through consultation with the opposing side.

Proceeding from this stand, we will control the entry into and exit from our side's area by those who could hamper the success of the pan-national rally and will not guarantee their safety.

We urge the U.S. side, as one of the parties responsible for entry into and exit from Panmunjom and for safety in the JSA in Panmunjom, also to take the necessary steps.

13 August 1990

North Proposes 14 Aug Meeting

SK1308054790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0348 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Press statement by spokesman of the North side's preparatory committee for the pannational rally issued in Pyongyang on 13 August—read by announcer]

[Text] With the opening ceremony of the grand march for national reunification, which was held atop Mt. Paektu on the morning of 13 August, the curtain on the 15 August pan-national rally has been raised.

Present at the launching ceremony of the Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march for acceleration of national reunification were delegates of the North side's preparatory committee and numerous overseas compatriots representing promotion headquarters in each area including Europe, North America, the Soviet Union, China, and Japan.

Regrettably enough, however, none of the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters, which promoted the pan-national rally and actively carried out its preparations, including the National Democratic Alliance of Korea [Chonminnyon] and the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop], was able to participate in the launching ceremony except delegate Hwang Sok-yong.

This is an outcome of the splittist maneuvers of the South Korean authorities who blocked in every way the participation of the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters in the rally while unjustly taking part and interfering in the work of the pan-national rally.

For the practical contribution of the 15 August pan-national rally, which will be held for the first time since the nation was divided into the North and the South, to national reconciliation, unity and national reunification as a great reunification festival broadly participated in by fellow countrymen at home and abroad, the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters, including Chonminnyon and Chondaehyop, should participate in this event.

We must pay attention to the 12 August statement of the minister of Unification Board in South Korea that he will allow the visit to the North by four organizations including Chonminnyon, which our side has invited.

We are pleased with the South Korean authorities' expression of an intention to partly accept our side's proposal, although belatedly. We welcome this.

Since the South Korean authorities stated that they will grant the request of four organizations, including Chonminnyon, regarding their delegates' visit to the North, we want to directly meet with the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters to discuss the issue of their visit to the North.

We do not consider it necessary to receive the list of their names from the South Korean authorities since we invited the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters to Pyongyang. It is our belief if the persons concerned directly meet with and talk with each other, everything will be clearer and understood, even if the procedure of exchanging the name lists is omitted.

The South Korean authorities should take steps to allow the visit of all delegates of opposition organizations to the North for participation in the pan-national rally, instead of attempting to hand over the name list, which is not necessary, by interfering in the issue of a visit by civilian organizations.

To discuss the issue of a visit to the North by delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters, including Chonminnyon, we will dispatch three working-level officials to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 1400 on the afternoon of 14 August.

We express our hope the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters will be able to come to Panmunjom at this time without fail.

13 August 1990, Pyongyang

Criticism of ROK Actions on Visits Continues

Applications Denounced

SK1108110590 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0027 GMT 10 Aug 90

[NODONG SINMUN 10 August commentary: "A Deceptive Drama by Those Who Have Been Driven Into a Corner"]

[Text] Raving as if it could meet all demands of the people hoping to visit the North, the South Korean military fascist ring played out the drama of receiving applications for visiting the North in the district offices of the puppet cities and counties.

A few days ago, being afraid of a Pyongyang visit by the six representatives of the South side's promotion headquarters to participate in the third preliminary contact for the pan-national rally, the puppets blocked them at the point of bayonet. Indeed, it is a really strange thing that the puppets began the farce of receiving applications for visiting the North.

The farce of receiving the applications for visiting the North, which was begun by the South Korean puppets, is nothing but a clumsy deceptive drama aimed at frustrating the pan-national rally in Panmunjom, which will be held among the great expectations and concerns of the fellow countrymen in the North, South, and overseas countries. It is aimed at soothing the public opinion at home and abroad who call for pulling down the concrete wall and for free visits and full-scale opening between the North and the South. It is aimed at bridging the serious politically unstable situation and the ruling crises of the puppets.

The deceptive nature of the so-called special announcement, in which No Tae-u said he would set the five days around 15 August as a period of grand national exchanges, was nakedly revealed to the world by the puppets' own activities.

As is known, in the statement issued in connection with No Tae- u's special announcement, the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] demanded that if the South Korean authorities genuinely have the desire to realize exchanges of visits through Panmunjom, that they pull down the concrete wall, a major stumbling block to realizing exchanges of visit; that they abrogate the National Security Law; and that they, above all, at least release the figures who have been arrested and imprisoned on charges of visiting the North; and that they not block the 15 August pan-national rally.

In addition, the CPRF declared that if such questions are settled, we would believe the remarks of the South Korean authorities to be genuine, and that even though there may be restrictions, we would in part realize exchanges of visits through Panmunjom beginning on 15 August, without restricting the date to any time.

Needless to say, our side's demands are realistic and aboveboard demands proceeding from a desire to make the 1990's the year of reunification by opening a way for free visits and full-scale opening at any rate, and from brilliantly holding the 15 August pan-national rally as a festival for reunification of the nation.

In spite of this, the South Korean puppets have not accepted even one of our just demands, claiming in a far-fetched manner that the existence of the concrete wall, keeping the National Security Law as it is, and persecution of those figures who visited the North cannot be a stumbling block to the North-South exchanges of visits.

Still worse, the puppets put forward the question that the pan-national rally should be participated in by the people from all walks of life, and prevented by violence the representatives of the National Democratic Alliance of Korea from going to the North to participate in the third preliminary contact for the pan-national rally.

Basically, to realize free visits between the North and the South, the farce of reception of applications for visiting the North is not necessary. It is sufficient for the people from all walks of life to freely come and go and hold contacts and dialogue with each other. Therefore, it is not necessary to play the drama of admission or applications for visits to the North.

In a nutshell, the farce of applications for visits to the North, which was begun by the puppets, is aimed at blocking free visits, not at realizing free visits. Thus, this is nothing but a drama aimed at making fools of the people.

A deceptive farce can never cover up the splittist color, nor can it block the tenor of the people desiring reunification. It is foolish to try to bridge over ruling crises with clumsy deceptive drama and trickery.

If the South Korean persons in authority want free visits, full- scale opening, and national reunification, they should, above all, pull down the concrete wall which they have built; abrogate the National Security Law which has stood in the way of contacts and meetings for national reunification; and take a practical step for realizing free visits and full-scale opening.

Catholic Group Announces Visit

SK1008094390 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0600 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Press statement by chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Catholic Federation issued in Pyongyang on 10 August—read by announcer]

[Text] News statement by Chang Chae-chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Catholic Federation

When the burning desire of all compatriots for reunification is surging on the threshold of the historic pan-national rally in which the compatriots in the North, the South, and overseas will meet for the first time in 45 years since the division of the nation, the South Korean Catholic Priests Association for Justice [CPAJ] has officially announced that it will pay a visit to the northern half of the Republic. In expressing the desire to pay a visit to the North, the CPAJ proposed that a joint mass be read with Catholics in the North, in the Changchung Catholic Church in Pyongyang, and that Catholics in the North and the South get together on 16 August at Panmunjom, the symbol of national division, to hold a joint mass there for reunification in the nineties.

I recognize this as an outstanding proposal which fully accords with the religious spirit of Catholics of the North and the South to remove the misunderstanding and distrust existing between the North and the South, to achieve national reconciliation and unity, and to expedite national reunification, and I warmly support and welcome it. Melting the barrier of division with the burning heat of desire for reunification and, thus, bringing the dawn of reunification in the hopeful nineties is precisely the unanimous desire and will of all the nation and is the invariable religious spirit of Catholics in the North and the South.

It is very natural for the Catholics in the North and the South, who pray for the gospelization and reunification of the nation, to sit face to face, to hold a joint mass and discuss the reunification question, at the site of dialogue for reunification. It is also the duty of our religious people.

Debates on the reunification question are not an issue that only specific segments of people can and should monopolize, and are a national joint task which all the people who live in this land should fulfill. Therefore, all political parties, public organizations, and the people from all walks of life in the North and the South should have a broad range of dialogue for reunification by making mutual contacts and mutual visits, irrespective of time, place, and circumstances.

Last year, the CPAJ sent Father Mun Kyu-hyon to the northern half of the Republic and let him hold significant meetings with religious persons in the North. At the same time, the CPAJ also let Father Mun Kyu-hyon not only encourage student Yim Su-kyong, who was returning home after participating in the 13th World Festival of Youths and Students, but also let him return to Seoul with her, crossing the military demarcation line. Thus, the CPAJ has the pride of (?having broken through) the barrier of division.

If and when a delegation of the CPAJ visits the northern half of the Republic, we will sit face to face with them, irrespective of the form and procedures of contact, and will discuss various problems related to the reunification question in a frank and open- minded manner. Thus, we will undoubtedly discuss in a sincere manner the issue of carrying out a joint struggle for pulling down the concrete wall built in the South side's area, for abolishing the National Security Law, an antireunification law, for withdrawing U.S. forces from South Korea, and for achieving independent and peaceful reunification.

The Central Committee of the Korean Catholic Federation proposes to the CPAJ that both sides send three delegates each to the conference room of the Neutral Nations' Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 1100 on 11 August for working-level discussions for the realization of the visit to the North of a delegation from the CPAJ and the joint functions to be held while it stays in Pyongyang.

The South Korean authorities should not block the visit of a CPAJ delegation to the North as they did when a delegation of the National Democratic Alliance of Korea was trying to participate in the first and third rounds of preliminary contact for the pan-national rally, but should open the historic road for sacred religious persons' visit to the North.

10 August 1990, Pyongyang

South Blocks Visit

SK1208084090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0828 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u military blackguards stopped at the "Imjin Pavilion" on August 11 the delegates of the South Korean national Roman Catholic priests group for justice who were heading for Panmunjom to have a contact with delegates of the Korean Roman Catholics association over the question of holding a joint mass praying for reunification in the '90s, according to a report.

The fascist clique blocked the northern trip of five delegates of the priests' group including Father Nam Kuk-hyon and forced them to go back to Seoul.

The South Korean national Roman Catholic priests group for justice initiated a North-South joint mass on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of national liberation, and the C.C. [Central Committee], the Korean Roman Catholics association proposed a contact between delegates of both sides at Panmunjom Saturday morning for a working-level discussion of it.

Hence, the delegates of the South Korean national Roman Catholic priests group for justice were making for Panmunjom but bumped into repression.

CPRF Secretary's Statement

SK1308093290 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0352 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Press statement by An Pyong-su, secretary of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF) issued in Pyongyang on 13 August]

[Text] South Korea's unification minister on 12 August said that the South side would allow the figures of the four organizations, including the National Roman Catholic Priests Group for Justice and the National Democratic Alliance of Korea [Chonminnyon], to visit the North, and proposed that a liaison officials' contact be held in this connection in Panmunjom at 1500 on 13 August.

Until yesterday, the South Korean authorities had said that they would not allow our side's Korean Students Committee, the Korean Catholic Association, and the North side's preparatory committee for the pan-national rally to hold a working contact with the delegates of South Korea's Seoul District Federation of General Student Councils [Sochongnyon], the National Roman Catholic Priests Group for Justice, and the South side's promotion headquarters for the pan-national rally respectively in Panmunjom when the former proposed this, saying that they cannot approve the contacts between the civilian organizations. In this position the South Korean authorities forcibly whisked away the delegates of the Roman Catholic Priests Group who were on their way to Panmunjom. The South Korean authorities now have changed their attitude overnight and said

they will allow them to visit the North. Whatever their true intent may be, this should be taken as a step forward and a fortunate thing.

Today, all the Korean compatriots in the North, the South, and overseas ardently wish to contact and visit each other, promote national unity, and promote the reunification of the country. To realize this yearning and demand of the fellow countrymen, the authorities should not monopolize dialogue but actively encourage the independent dialogue and contact between the reunification- aspiring civilian organizations. However, regrettably, the South Korean authorities are maintaining an attitude of interfering in and desperately opposing the contact and dialogue between the civilian organizations of the North and the South under the signboard of the so-called singularizing of the channel of dialogue.

The South Korean authorities proposed a contact between the liaison officials, saying that they would hand over the name list in connection with the visit to the North by the figures of the civilian organizations. We cannot but construe this to mean that they want to control the contacts and exchange of the civilian organizations.

In fact, informing the other side of the name list of the figures who will visit the North can be done directly by the parties concerned rather than the authorities. The South Korean authorities should not involve themselves in the contacts and visits, which are none of their business, trying to act on behalf of others, but provide the condition so that the parties concerned themselves can meet and give heed to their personal safety.

Neither our side's social organizations nor South Korea's dissident organizations want the South Korean authorities to interfere in the independent civilian dialogue. They hope they will be able to meet, communicate with each other, and visit each other freely as soon as possible. Under the present circumstances, we think the parties concerned should meet as soon as possible and discuss the working matters for the visit to the North as our side's organizations proposed. Now that the South Korean authorities said they will hand over the name list to us, they will have no reason to block the meeting of the parties concerned any more.

Another matter over which we cannot but express our regret is that the South Korean authorities still have not approved the participation in the pan-national rally by the many dissident organizations specified by the South side's promotion headquarters. The South Korean authorities, while saying that they would allow the figures of the four organizations to visit the North, say that they would not allow the other dissident organizations to participate in the pan-national rally. This is self-contradiction. They should know that this leads us to doubt the truthfulness of their statement that they would allow the delegates of the four organizations to visit the North.

I strongly maintain that if the South Korean authorities truly have the will to realize the exchange on the occasion of the national liberation anniversary on 15 August, they should, as soon as possible, guarantee with real action the visit to the North by the four organizations, namely, the delegates of the Party of the Masses, Sochongnyon, Chonminnyon, and the National Roman Catholic Priests Group for Justice, and express their official position that they will approve the visit to Pyongyang by Mr. Paek Ki-wan and the participation in the pan-national rally by all the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters.

13 August 1990, Pyongyang

Contact on Paek Visit Proposed

SK1308070090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0441 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Press statement by the spokesperson for the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party issued in Pyongyang on 13 August—read by announcer]

[Text] As has already been made known, Mr. Paek Ki-wan, standing adviser to the Party of the Masses of South Korea, at a news conference on 8 August accepted the proposal for convening a political consultative conference of the leading figures of the North and South, which the great leader President Kim Il-song put forth in his New Year's address last year, and expressed his desire to visit Pyongyang. Regarding this, the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, in its chairman's press statement, has positively supported and welcomed it and has expressed its stand that it would warmly receive Mr. Paek Ki-wan as an envoy of reunification.

Earlier, on 3 August, when the Party of the Masses of South Korea expressed its stand that it would form a party delegation to pay a visit to Pyongyang, the Korean Social Democratic Party expressed its stand that it truly welcomes it.

Acknowledging that the initiative of Mr. Paek Ki-wan and the Party of the Masses to visit Pyongyang is important in developing the negotiations for reunification among the political parties of the North and South, we once again warmly support and welcome it.

Today our people's desire for reunification is growing more than ever and the reunification movement is being further expanded and consolidated into a pan-national movement.

Today, when many countries of the world are moving toward the path of reunification, only our people are continuing the division by being trifled with by the foreign forces and are confronting one another through conflict and feuding among compatriots. This, indeed, is heartbreaking.

We must reconcile and unite with one another by surpassing the differences in ideologies, systems, political views, and religions and must jointly pioneer the path to reunification.

To this end, not only the authorities of the North and South but various political parties, organizations, and individual personages also should contact one another, hold dialogue, and seek a common path of the nation to reunification.

If Mr. Paek Ki-wan and the delegation of the Party of the Masses of South Korea visit Pyongyang, a good result, we firmly believe, will be produced in the negotiations for reunification, because we harbor a common desire and aspiration for reunification.

What is important is to sit face to face as soon as possible. Thus, noting the fact the minister of the Unification Board of South Korea on 12 August said the visits to the North by personages of four South Korean organizations would be allowed, we cordially propose to hold a working contact with delegates of the Party of the Masses in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 1600 on 14 August to discuss practical matters regarding the visit to Pyongyang by Mr. Paek Ki-wan, standing adviser to the Party of the Masses, and by the delegates of the Party of the Masses.

The political parties of the northern half of the Republic once again pledge that, if Mr. Paek Ki-wan and the delegates of the Party of the Masses of South Korea come to Pyongyang, all necessary conveniences will be offered and, through the consultation with the authorities of the Republic, their personal safety will be guaranteed and they will be warmly received as the envoys of reunification.

13 August 1990, Pyongyang

Yim Su-kyong Support Society Formed in Seoul

SK1208083390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0824 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—The birth of the society for supporting Yim Su-kyong was formally announced at its inaugural meeting in Seoul on August 7, according to a report.

In a declaration adopted at the meeting the society stressed that the reunification movement has gained momentum among the fellow countrymen after student Yim Su-kyong's visit to Pyongyang last year and reunification has now become the call of the time to which no one can object and vowed to take the lead in expanding the reunification movement.

The society also determined to support student Yim Su-kyong in her life in jail and massively conduct the movement for the abolition of the anti-democratic, anti-reunification evil law and the reunification movement.

The society elected pastor in charge of Hyangnin Church Hong Kun-su as permanent chairman and Father Mun Chong-hyon who is elder brother of Father Mun Kyu-hyon, and Father Nam Kuk-hyon affiliated with the national Roman Catholic Priests' Group for the Realization of Justice involved in dispatching Father Mun Kyu-hyon to the North as Presidium members.

Pastor Hong Kun-su said that the stand of the "government" insisting on grand inter-Korean exchanges of people while keeping student Yim Su-kyong and other persons who visited the North behind the bars is no more than a fiction, and demanded the abolition of the "National Security Law" and the release of all persons who visited the North.

Church Holds 'Reunification' Service in Pyongyang

SK1208092990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0900 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—"World common day of prayer for peace and the reunification of Korea" was observed at a divine service held in Pongsu Church in Pyongyang today according to the decision made at a consultation held by representatives of religious circles in the North and the South and various countries of the world in Glion, Switzerland, in November 1988.

It was attended by hundreds of overseas Korean laymen and compatriots staying in the homeland to participate in the pan-national rally and foreign laymen as well as believers in Pyongyang.

Homily on "Day of national liberation" was made first there.

Then followed the reading of the "Prayer text on the world common day of prayer for peace and the reunification of Korea."

Pastor Kim Un-pong, permanent member of the Central Committee of the Korean Christians Federation, preached a sermon.

He said our compatriots in the North and the South and overseas must advance in firm unity under the unfurled banner of national reunification , putting aside any differences in their ideology and ideal, political view and religious belief and finding out commonness for the sake of the common vital cause of the nation.

He called for dynamically turning out to accomplish the noble cause of reunification, upholding the banner of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, the three principles of national reunification, and wished the soon-to-be-held pan-national rally a success and urged the release of the entire patriotic figures including Rev. [Reverend] Mun Ik-hwan, woman student Yim Su-kyong and Father Mun Kyu-hyon.

There was a prayer wishing for peace in Korea and her reunification at the service.

South Describes 'Wall' as 'Anti-Tank Obstacles'

SK1308055790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0548 GMT 13 Aug 90

["Concrete Wall Cannot be Concealed"—KCNA Headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 13 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppets, after inviting a few selected civilians to see the concrete wall built in the western sector of the front on August 10, described it as "anti-tank obstacles" and preposterously asserted that it is not detrimental to free travel because there are three-metre wide passages for vehicles and people between obstacles.

It is preposterous that the South Korean puppets described the iron gates made for attack on the North as passages for vehicles and people making free travel, says NODONG SINMUN today in a commentary.

This is no more than a clumsy burlesque to cover up the falsehood and hypocrisy of their proposal for "inter-Korean exchange of people" intended to foil the August 15 pan-national rally and justify it at all costs, the news analyst points out, and goes on:

It is already more than half a year since our reunification proposal to pull down the concrete wall and realise free travel and complete opening between the North and the South was announced and the South Korean puppets have been dead set against a joint investigation. In spite of this fact, they are now staging such a ridiculous farce as opening the concrete wall to public, advertising it as "anti-tank obstacles."

The existence of the concrete wall was admitted by No Tae-u himself before compatriots during his trip to West Germany in November last year and by the senior member of the U.S. side at the 454th meeting of the Military Armistice Agreement.

By spelling out a lie to avoid the question of demolishing the concrete wall they betray the despicable nature of traitors, splittists who oppose free travel and complete opening and work hard to keep the barrier of division in a bid to seek a permanent division of the country into "two Koreas."

The South Korean puppets must stop telling reckless lies, give up their anachronistic policy of division and confrontation and pull down by themselves the barrier of division built by themselves as demanded by the whole nation and the times.

Daily Criticizes South's National Security Law

SK1208084890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0831 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—The South Korean military fascist clique have rounded up a total of 188 "security offenders" by invoking the "National Security Law" during the first quarter of this year. This figure is more than nine times as compared with 20 in the like period of last year.

The "National Security Law" which the South Korean puppets use as a tool for their "power security" is a diabolic, anti-national fascist law against independence and democratization of the South Korean society and National reunification, says NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today.

The news analyst says:

By invoking this notorious anti-reunification evil Law which defines the northern half of Korea as "an anti-state organization" and "enemy" the South Korean rulers label as "treason" any tendencies toward praising, inspiring and sympathizing with the North and any attempts to learn about the idea, system and reality of the North, to say nothing of travel and contact with the North, and impose capital and heavy punishments on those involved, thus blocking national unity and peaceful reunification.

Although the No Tae-u group craftily talks about "reunification" through "dialogue," "exchange and cooperation" and "free travel," in an effort to conceal its true color, it is, in actuality, applying the "National Security Law" to those who struggle for national reunification.

The "National Security Law" has virtually turned South Korea into a most closed society where even contact between fellow countrymen is made punishable and completely prohibited.

Unless this "law" is scrapped it is impossible to realize free travel, exchange and cooperation between the North and the South and achieve national reunification.

The No Tae-u military fascist clique must immediately abolish the "National Security Law" and release without delay those who had visited the North, patriotic democrats who call for reunification and students arrested under this "law."

ROK AIDS Caused by 'American Way of Life'

SK1308053590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0529 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 13 (KCNA)—Two more AIDS cases have been reported from South Korea.

This year, more than 100 AIDS cases have been detected in South Korea where the corrupt and ailing American way of life is prevalent, causing public concern.

Daily Demands Stop to U.S. War 'Gambles'

SK1308060590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0554 GMT 13 Aug 90

["Nuclear Clouds Gather"—KCNA Headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 13 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists frantically staged aerial war exercises code-named "cope North 90-4," "giant warrior" and "August

90" in and around Okinawa, Japan, from July 31 to August 11. The Japanese air "Self-Defense Force" was involved in them.

Calling attention to the fact that these war games were timed to coincide with aerial war exercises staged almost every day in South Korea and the warplanes mobilized in them also participated in the maneuvers in the airspace of South Korea, NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today says:

As far as Okinawa is concerned, it is a stronghold of the U.S. imperialists for aggression against Korea and their base for preemptive attack on it.

The fact that they staged aerial war games by bringing their Pacific-based Airforce and Misawa- and Iwakuni-based fighter planes into Okinawa and its surroundings proves that they were operational exercises for air attack on the depths and inland areas of the northern half of Korea.

What must not be overlooked here is that these exercises were aimed at a nuclear preemptive strike at our Republic. This is borne out by the fact that the "giant warrior" was a military exercise staged by the U.S. strategical Airforce command.

No one can predict when the U.S. imperialists will go over to a real war while staging war exercises in and around South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists must immediately stop the dangerous war gambles in and around South Korea and withdraw their forces and nuclear weapons from there.

Soviet Pacific Flotilla, Flying Corps To Visit

SK1108105390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1035 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—A flotilla of the Soviet Red Flag Pacific Fleet will pay an official goodwill visit to Wonsan port from August 14 to 18.

Meanwhile, a flying corps of the Soviet Air Force will pay an official goodwill visit to Korea from August 14 through 17.

PRC Communist Party Group Arrives for Visit

SK1108105890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Liaoning Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China led by Quan Shuren, member of the Central Committee of the CPC and secretary of the Liaoning provincial party committee, arrived in Sinuiju today to visit North Pyongan Province.

It was met by Cho Se-ung, chief secretary of the North Pyongan provincial committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and officials concerned.

Kim Yong-son Meets With JSP Representative

SK1008111190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1055 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-son, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, today met and had a friendly talk with Yuzuru Shimazaki, general secretary of the Measures Committee on the Korean Affairs of the Japan Socialist Party [JSP] and member of the House of Representatives.

Japan-Korea Friendship Delegates Interviewed

SK1308054790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0530 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 13 (KCNA)—The delegation of the Ishikawa Prefectural Dietmen's League for the Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship headed by its Vice- Chairman Yasuji Shimizu was interviewed by a reporter in Pyongyang before leaving Korea.

The head of the delegation said:

Seeing the concrete wall built by the United States and the South Korean puppets in the area south of the military demarcation line, I clearly understood who truly desires peace and reunification of the country in Korea.

The South Korean authorities do not want peace and reunification but seek division.

The forthcoming pan-national rally will constitute an important occasion for peace and reunification of Korea, he said, and wished its success.

Deputy head of the delegation Shoichi Yamada noted:

I was struck with admiration at the efforts of the Korean people who are fighting for peace and reunification of their country.

The South Korean authorities should dismantle at an early date the concrete wall built in the area South of the military demarcation line and realise free travel and complete opening between the North and the South.

Secretary of the delegation Kenji Koto pointed out that it is the consistent stand of the DPRK to achieve the reunification of the country through dialogue.

The reunification of Korea will greatly contribute to peace in Asia and the rest of the world, he stressed.

Cambodia's Sihanouk Concludes Korean Visit

SK1108105090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Kampuchea [Cambodia], left here today by special plane, concluding his Korean visit.

Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and other officials concerned saw off him and his party at the airport.

Kim Il-song Greets New Hungarian President

SK1208045590 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0400 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Message of congratulations from President Kim Il-song to newly-elected Hungarian President Arpad Goncz; dated 10 August—read by announcer]

[Text] Budapest

His Excellency Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic of Hungary:

Offering my congratulations to you on your election as president of the Republic of Hungary, I wish you success in your work for the prosperity of the country.

Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK

10 August 1990, Pyongyang

Vice President, Outgoing Romanian Envoy Meet

SK1008110690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1057 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—Vice-President Yi Chong-ok today met and had a talk with Nicolae Girba, Romanian ambassador to Korea, at the Mansudae Assembly Hall when the latter paid a farewell call on him.

Present there was Yi In-kyu, vice-minister of foreign affairs.

Anniversary of Relations With Sri Lanka Marked

SK0908105090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1042 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 9 (KCNA)—Messages of greetings were exchanged on the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam in his message to his Sri Lankan counterpart Harold Herath said: On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries, I express the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will grow stronger and develop.

Foreign Minister Harold Herath in his message to Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam expressed on the occasion the conviction that the friendly relations between the two countries will grow stronger in the future.

Integral Whole of Leader, Party, Masses Favored

SK1208093490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0852 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in an article today says that strengthening the subject of the revolution is essential in the struggle for socialism.

Strengthening the subject of the revolution means consolidating the integral whole of the leader, the party and the masses.

The destiny of the cause of socialism and its prospect depend on how firmly the subject of the revolution is built and how its role is enhanced.

Strengthening the subject of the revolution stands out as a fundamental question in the struggle for socialism because it is a requirement for socialist construction itself, the article says, and continues:

Strengthening the subject of the revolution is precisely the way of invigorating socialist construction and carrying it to completion with success.

If a working-class party fails to strengthen the subject of the revolution, carried away by the already won victory and achievements, it cannot continue effecting an upsurge in the revolution and successfully accomplish the cause of socialism and, further, it will end in failure.

This is a precious lesson taught by the long history of the revolutionary movement.

Only when the subject of the revolution is constantly strengthened can the party and people invariably and confidently advance along the road of socialism chosen by themselves and firmly defend the dignity of socialism and the gains of the revolution won at the cost of blood, decisively smashing by their united efforts any imperialist pressure, interference, divisive and subversive manoeuvres.

Yi Chong-ok Congratulates Builders of Railway

SK0908050390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Pyongyang August 9 (KCNA)—The electrification of the Paekdusan Youth Railway Line (Wiyon-Motga) has been completed.

This line will serve the visitors to the revolutionary battle sites in Yanggang Province including Mt. Paekdu. It will also help increase the transport capacity of railways in this area and improve the livelihood of the people.

The railway builders laid the electric line of 80 kilometers, built 11 railway stations and many structures in a short span of time.

A meeting for opening to traffic the Paekdusan Youth Electric Railway line took place at Motga station on August 8.

Vice-president Yi Chong-ok conveyed a congratulatory message of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the builders.

The message warmly congratulated the youth shock brigade members and railway builders on the successful completion of the railway line electrification through the display of mass heroism.

In his report, Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, said:

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il formed a youth shock brigade and dispatched it to the railway electrification project, took measures for supplying necessary equipment preferentially and highly estimated their feats.

After the meeting "Chong Il Peak children" electric locomotives ran to Wiyon station through Samjiyon, Imyongsu and Karim youth stations, pulling new coaches.

South Korea

Further Reaction to Iraq's Persian Gulf Moves

Paper Supports Sanctions

SK1108081790 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 9 Aug 90 p 2

[Editorial: "The Middle East Crisis and Our Choice"]

[Text] The number of choices available in the efforts and desire to settle the Kuwait situation through diplomatic efforts, not by force of arms, is narrowing. The possibility of the Kuwait situation developing into a serious military conflict is now rapidly increasing. In defiance of the United Nations' decision on economic sanctions and unanimous international pressure to restore the Kuwait situation to its original state, Iraq has annexed Kuwait, and the United States has clarified its firm position to take an active hand in the situation by sending its ground forces to the region. Thus, the Middle East faces a worse situation now, and this has aroused serious concerns in the world.

Iraq's reckless aggression against Kuwait deserves international sanctions. We believe, however, that the best way to settle the situation at present is to make Iraq pull back from its armed aggression, not to use force of arms. We believe that proceeding from such a principled stand, it was inevitable for our government to join the international sanctions against Iraq in accordance with the United Nations' resolution, and, therefore, we support the government's decision.

The UN Security Council's resolution for sanctions against Iraq, including the banning of imports of crude oil from Iraq, sales of weapons to it, and the economic sanctions against Iraq, including freezing Kuwaiti and Iraqi property in Western countries, are believed to be the proper measures that we can expect at the present stage. We believe that if and when these sanctions are properly carried out, Iraq will not be able to hold out long.

Therefore, in order not to repeat the precedent of the collective international economic sanctions of the past which were nothing but empty words, it is most desirable for the world's countries to maintain a perfect and consistent system of cooperation among themselves at the present stage.

In today's international situation, an armed conflict, even though it is a regional armed conflict, can definitely become a factor threatening world peace. An armed conflict in the Persian Gulf, in particular, would not only create a global economic crisis, but also carry the risk of developing into an uncontrollable situation like a time bomb because of the complicated geopolitical and military pecularities of this region.

If a military conflict takes place in this region, in light of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's imprudent character there would even be a high possibility for Iraq to use terrible chemical weapons and to trigger a military conflict with Israel by taking advantage of the Arab world's national and religious hostilities against that country, and another all-out war could not be avoided in the Middle East.

Based on this evaluation, we highly evaluate our government's principled stand which sternly opposes any armed action. Proceeding from this principle, we understand and support our government's stand calling on Iraq to withdraw its troops from Kuwait and its decision to follow the United Nation's condemnation and economic sanctions against Iraq.

But the problem is how we should harmonize such a stand and our economic sanctions against Iraq with today's reality, in which we have diplomatic and economic relations with that country. There are more than 1,000 Korean workers and employees of our business firms in Kuwait and Iraq. Therefore, we should seriously take their personal safety into consideration.

Our government is not in a position to directly exercise influence over the Middle East crisis. But we hope our government will make all possible efforts to contribute to settling the situation peacefully, while keenly keeping in mind our national interests.

Joining in Sanctions 'Natural'

SK1108082190 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 10 Aug 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Joining in Sanctions Against Iraq Is Natural"]

[Text] The international community, which has been denouncing Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, has further consolidated its countermeasures since Iraq announced its annexation of Kuwait. Declaring Iraq's annexation of

Kuwait to be null and void in the second resolution of the UN Security Council, the international community is preparing a third resolution which will enable the UN member nations to exercise collective self-defense rights.

A unanimous voice and a unanimous act, unprecedented since the founding of the UN, are appearing. The word of the international community now has a concrete meaning, not just an abstract one, not only to the East and West but also to Iraq's fellow Arab countries, to which it pays attention. This is a new trend for the international community, which has entered a new stage of detente. Accordingly, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is at a crossroads, where he must decide whether to fight against the entire world or retreat.

As long as Iraq does not abandon its intention to expand the war by invading Saudi Arabia and threatening the use of horrible chemical weapons, its choices are narrow, and as a result, enormous sacrifices, which no one wants, would follow. To prevent such an unfortunate situation as a full-scale war in the Persian Gulf, we sincerely hope military adventurism, prompted by misjudgment, will be abandoned.

There are reports countermeasures using nuclear weapons are under consideration to cope with Iraq's possible use of chemical weapons. These reports reveal the seriousness of the situation. Furthermore, even progressive people in the United States who have opposed U.S. military interference in local conflicts since the Vietnam war maintain that unlike in the Vietnam war, no "sanctuary" that could restrict U.S. military actions in the war against Iraq should be allowed. We should pay attention to this. If military clashes between the United States and Iraq unfortunately were to take place, these would develop into an indiscriminate, full-scale war.

If Iraq does not discard military adventurism, which would make a full-scale war inevitable, the UN Security Council undoubtedly will take steps for forming multinational armed forces, as prescribed in Chapter 7 of the UN Charter. The Soviet Union also stated that if the UN Security Council makes such a decision, it will join the multinational armed forces—which can make a show of force with their Army, Navy and Air Force—and carry out "other necessary actions," including a blockade.

The nations which expressed their willingness to join the multinational armed forces are some NATO member nations and the Arab League nations, besides the Soviet Union. Needless to say, it appears the objective of the multinational armed forces will be restricted to a blockade and overseeing the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait, rather than getting involved in direct war actions. The point to which one must pay attention, however, is that the international community is showing firm determination with a unanimous voice and unanimous acts.

The government has accepted the first resolution of the UN Security Council for economic sanctions against Iraq and banning the sale of weapons. In view of the fact the ROK, not a UN member state, has no obligation to follow the resolution of the UN Security Council, and that consideration should be given to the issue of personal safety of our workers in Iraq, the opinion calling for our "prudent action" may be understandable. But the Security Council calls on even non-UN members to accept its decision. Therefore, the Security Council's resolution in a way is binding, even for non-members. No one, except critical anti-U.S. figures, would want to be a stubborn, self-righteous person isolated from international society.

It is true the issue of our workers, who are actually detained in Iraq, and the personal safety of Koreans residing there, concern us. It seems, however, that means and diplomatic steps which would enable them to retire to safety are not available at present. The best way under these conditions is to keep step with the international community. There is no other choice than this. The foreigners detained in Iraq are not only Koreans. People are concerned with the possibility of the kidnapping of foreigners in Iraq. A unanimous voice is necessary at this time, more urgently than ever before. We urge the government to work out wise steps.

Seoul Negotiating Evacuation

SK1108011190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0048 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 (YONHAP)—South Korea is negotiating the evacuation of 1,300 Koreans from Iraq and Kuwait, a high-ranking Korean official said Saturday.

"We have officially asked Baghdad to cooperate for the departure of Koreans from the two countries, but haven't heard anything yet. We will continue to negotiate with Iraq while working on various measures for their early evacuation," he said on the condition of anonymity.

Most of the Koreans in the two countries are working on construction projects there. For the withdrawal of the Koreans, the government has worked out measures, in close cooperation with the Hyundai Construction and Engineering Co. and other Korean contractors engaged in the projects, to transport them aboard chartered aircraft and vessels in the Middle East. If it is difficult to evacuate them all at once, the government will try to withdraw the 640 in Kuwait first and the rest in Iraq later, he said. The Koreans in Iraq are safe and have plenty of food, but those in Kuwait have only rice and instant noodles, the official said. An inter-ministerial task force was to convene a meeting Saturday morning to discuss the evacuation of Koreans and economic sanctions against Iraq.

Further on Evacuation Plans

SK1208032890 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Aug 90 p 1

[Text] The government plans to evacuate about 1,300 Koreans in Iraq and Kuwait to safe areas in a gradual way following consultation with the Iraqi government and in cooperation with international organizations as the Gulf crisis is predicted to get worse.

Dependents of officials at government missions and public offices will be moved first, said Kwon Pyong-hyon, ambassador at large and head of the inter-ministerial task force dealing with Middle East developments, after its inaugural meeting yesterday. Senior members of the task force weighed various ways to implement the evacuation with aerial, maritime and land access to the region blocked. Chartered planes will be flown to Baghdad and Kuwait City, if judged necessary and if the situation allows, he told reporters.

Choe Pong-lum, ambassador to Baghdad, is in contact with Iraqi Foreign Ministry officials to obtain their permission for the pullout.

"We discussed a broad spectrum of safe ways to move people whose evacuation is urgently needed, including families of government and corporate personnel. The minimum number of people, such as key embassy and corporate officials, will remain there," he said. Construction workers are also to be evacuated later but the decision by their employers will be respected. Their evacuation will be determined in a joint meeting of the task force members and their employers early this week.

"The safest step will be taken for all of our people in the region, on the basis of our earlier consultation s with the countries concerned and international organizations like the International Committee of the Red Cross and our contacts with the Iraqi government officials," he said. But the measures will be taken in concert with moves by other countries with nationals in the war-torn area.

As to the blockades of Iraq, he said, "All the roads cannot remain cut off long. We hope the Iraqi government will consider our requests positively, and there are in fact signs on their part of a favorable attitude towards Asians. As an example of such favorable signs he mentioned Friday's release of three Korean workers by the Iraqi government after a formal, "cordial" notification was submitted by a senior Iraqi Foreign Ministry official to Amb. [Ambassador] Choe.

At present, there are 1,380 Koreans in the two countries—732 in Iraq and 648 in Kuwait, according to the latest official tally. They include 660 workers in Iraq and 319 in Kuwait. In a bid not to displease Iraq, the government, despite its announcement that it will join the worldwide sanctions against Baghdad, is seeking a compromise between the UN-ordered collective counter-steps and Korea's unique situation.

Kwon Pyong-hyon said, "Though we are joining in the sanctions against Iraq in compliance with the UN resolution, we exchanged views about implementing them in a way which will minimize the potential loss to us and not cause knew burdens to our enterprises. We will live up to the resolution but do so in a pragmatic fashion."

"We have to work out the most realistic measures by reviewing international circumstances and UN moves without overlooking our own national interests and the protection of our people in that region," he elaborated.

Evacuation by Land Discussed

SK1308063190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0514 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—Talks are under way with Iraq on evacuating South Korean citizens by land as air routes have been closed, a Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman said Monday.

Korean Ambassador to Iraq Choe Pong-heum asked the Iraqi Foreign Ministry to allow chartered jetliners fly all 1,300 Koreans out of Iraq, but the request was denied on the ground that Iraqi airspace is virtually sealed off, spokesman Chong Ui-yong said. A large number of the Koreans are construction workers helping Iraq rebuild from its war with Iran.

Choe and the Iraqi officials met on Saturday and Sunday, and will continue discussing the safety of Koreans in Iraq, possibly allowing them to cross the Iraqi border into Jordan, Chong said. The Korean Government is also consulting with the Jordanian Government on allowing in South Koreans without visas if Iraq lets them leave by land, he said. Meanwhile, Korea has asked the United States to allow Koreans in Liberia to take refuge at the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia if the situation there worsens, Chong said.

President Supports Sanctions

SK1208024690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 Aug 90 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u and top ruling party leaders yesterday expressed their support for the U.N. resolution calling for sanctions against Iraq.

They also decided to support efforts by the United States and other Western countries to settle the Middle East conflict arising from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait . No met with Kim Yong-sam and Pak Tae-chun at Chongwadae [Presidential Palace] to discuss recent developments at home and abroad.

"No and the two party co-leaders shared the view that the current Middle East conflict threatens not only the stable supply of crude oil but also world peace," said Cho Chang-yun, senior presidential secretary for political affairs. The three agreed that the government should exert efforts to minimize the conflict's adverse effects on the national economy and ensure the safety of Korean

residents in the region. They stressed the need to map out measures for a stable supply of oil and launch a nationwide campaign for energy conservation. No was quoted as saying the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait has provided lesson that regional conflicts may increase despite the newly emerging worldwide mood of detente.

"The conflict is an incident testing the international community's ability to manage a crisis in the post-Cold War era.

"We should learn the lesson that a nation cannot secure genuine peace without a self-defense capability," the President said.

No told the two party chairmen about the results of the recent official talks in Moscow on normalizing diplomatic ties and promoting economic cooperation. He said he hopes that the two sides will discuss more specifically when to open diplomatic ties and detailed economic cooperation projects. The President expressed regret over Pyongyang's refusal to receive a list of south Koreans who applied for passed to visit north Korea.

"Realizing their visits to the north seems impossible now," he said, "but the government will continue to study ways to realize mutual visits between the two sides." No and the two party leaders shared the view that the ruling and opposition parties should cooperate in tackling the current difficult situation facing the nation.

"Politicians should play a leading role in pooling the wisdom of the people," No was quoted as saying. "Confrontation and political wrangling cannot be justified under the present circumstances." The three agreed to open relevant National Assembly standing committees to discuss measures to cope with repercussions from the Middle East conflict and other developments. They agreed on the need to continue to push for dialogue with the opposition to resolve the current political stalemate. They also shared the view that the party and the administration should jointly study measures to ensure the stability of the stock market.

Ships Banned From Gulf

SK1208030090 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Aug 90 p 9

[Text] The government yesterday laid an embargo on Korean ships sailing above 28.15 degrees latitude north in the Persian Gulf as tension has been mounting in the Middle East.

The Korea Maritime and Port Administration [KMPA] said that the action was taken after the Lloyd's of London Wednesday rejected any war-risk insurance payments for ships crushing [as published] above the line. A KMPA official also said two national flag vessels were forced to [get] out of the water, cancelling their operation schedules.

The official said a 17,000-ton freighter, Pan Riser, of Pan Ocean Shipping left Umm Quras Port in Iraq yesterday and another 12,000-ton freighter, Hyundai No. 8, of Hyundai Merchant marine also left Bandar Khomeini on the Iranian border with Iraq on the same day four days ahead of schedule. On the other hand, two other tankers of the Yukong Line now bound for Iraq and Kuwait were ordered to sail to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) or Qatar.

He said a general freighter, the Pan Noble, of Pan Ocean, which left Pusan on July 22 and had been scheduled to arrive at Shuwaikh Port in Kuwait on Aug. 18, has been anchored at Mina Jebel Ali in UAE since Thursday. Pan Noble is scheduled to unload 1,550 tons of steel products and miscellaneous goods at the Kuwaiti port. Pan Ocean is negotiating with the UAE authorities to be allowed to unload the Kuwaiti-bound cargo, a KMPA official added.

Another LPG [liquified petroleum gas] carrier, the Gas Poem, chartered by the Korea Special Shipping Co. is also anchored at Ras Tanura in Saudi Arabia below the 28.15 degree line. The carrier is loaded with LPG bound for the Philippines. The U.S. Navy also earlier ordered U.S. flag merchant vessels to sail to the east of longitude 54.30 degree east in the Gulf for safety.

Last Thursday [2 August], when Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait, Lloyd's decided to demand additional premiums from owners of ships sailing west of 56 degrees longitude east. Pan Ocean, consequently, paid a 0.02 percent war-risk insurance premium for its freighter Pan Noble which has entered Jabel Ali Port in UAE. Two Yukong tankers—Yukong Frontier and Yukong Commander with gross tonnage of 142,367 each—were scheduled to enter Kuwait and Iraqi, respectively, soon.

Red Cross Aid Sought

SK1208033790 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 Aug 90 p 3

[Text] The Korea National Red Cross (KNRC) yesterday asked for the International Committee of Red Cross to help ensure the safety and protection of about 1,300 Koreans staying in Iraq and Kuwait in the face of the latest serious developments in the Middle East.

In his letter to ICRC President Cornelio Sommaruga, KNRC President Kim Sang-hyop said, "I would like to ask that your good offices be used to ensure measures for the safety and protection of our people in distress. Especially, in cases of emergency, it is hoped they could be promptly evacuated to a safety zone." Kim expressed hope that the ongoing situation in Iraq and Kuwait would be solved in a peaceful way and normal life be restored as soon as possible.

Task Force To Protect Exports

SK1208034590 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Aug 90 p 9

[Text] The state-run Korea Promotion Corp. (Kotra) has formed a task force to protect Korean exports to the Middle East from tension in the region.

The 16 specialists will remain at work until exports to the region return to normal, actively developing new projects and strengthening trade support measures through Kotra offices in the area, a Kotra spokesman said yesterday. If some problems are too big to be solved alone, they will receive cooperation from the Trade and Industry Ministry, said the spokesman. They will secure substitute markets in the Middle East and Asia for Iraq and Kuwait, which had annual purchases of about $300 million, he said.

A market-finding mission comprising 15 to 20 businessmen will leave in October for such Middle East nations as Jordan and the United Arab Emirates. Seminars on how Korean businesses can deal with this situation will be held soon by specialists on Middle East trade, and the head of the Kotra trade office in Cairo is scheduled to return early next month.

Postal Services Suspended

SK1208031490 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Aug 90 p 3

[Text] All postal services to Iraq and Kuwait have been suspended as from Friday due to the worsening situation there, the Communications Ministry announced yesterday.

Express mail services to Kuwait were halted Aug. 3, the day after the Iraqi invasion of the oil-rich monarchy. Communication lines to Kuwait have also been cut off, a Korea Telecommunication Authority spokesman said yesterday, making it impossible to get through to Kuwait by facsimile, telephone or any other means. However, communication lines to Iraq are still open, the spokesman added.

Seven Flee; Others 'Safe'

SK1308022390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0141 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—Five South Korean construction workers entered Jordan from Iraq on Sunday and will return home this week, a Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co. spokesman said Monday. Also, a Korean couple residing in Kuwait, arrived in Jordan on Aug. 10 and are staying in Amman, according to the state-run Korean Broadcasting System Sunday.

The five workers, all men working at a power plant some 100 kilometers south of Baghdad on Hyundai contracts, crossed the Iraqi border into Jordan by express bus early Sunday morning, the spokesman said. He quoted Yang Song-tuk, 36, as saying they are staying at a hotel in the Jordanian capital, Amman, and will fly home before the weekend. Yang said the nearly 1,300 Koreans still in Iraq are all safe.

The four others were identified as Kim In-kuk, Yun Chong-yong, Kang Tae-man and Kang Tae-hyon. The men were scheduled to leave in early August, when their contract expired, the spokesman said. They already had visas for Jordan and so had no difficulty crossing the Iraqi border. Iraq has banned all foreigners from leaving or entering since invading Kuwait on Aug. 2. This is reported to be the first escape by South Koreans from Iraq.

Crisis Prompts Restructuring

SK1308025790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0234 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—Iraq's annexation of Kuwait has prompted South Korea to initiate mid- and long-term industrial restructuring, a government official said Monday.

"As it appears that the crisis in the Middle East will last for a long time, the government has made plans to draw up a new national economic policy to cope with a continuous rise of oil prices," he said. "The centerpiece of the plan is conserving energy and developing technology to decrease the dependence of the Korean economy on oil." Related government agencies will meet this week to prepare an economic master plan, the official said.

"In the long term, the government should seek to restructure our economy, which is dependent on imported oil, to get around difficulties caused by oil price hikes," he said. The main feature of Korea's industrial restructuring will be the development of high-tech industry, which does not consume so much oil, he said.

In the short term, the government will step up efforts to save energy and accelerate a national drive against energy consumption begun last week to overcome a feared shortage of oil, he said. Shipments of 109,000 barrels of crude a day from Kuwait and Iraq, accounting for 11.8 percent of Korea's oil imports, have been suspended since the invasion.

Further on 'Grand National Exchange' With North

North Fails To Attend Meetings

SK1108090890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0824 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—Liaison officials from North Korea failed to attend a meeting on Saturday at the truce village of Panmunjom, the South Korean Government said.

The meeting was proposed Friday by the South to exchange lists of Koreans wishing to visit the other side next week and a memorandum on guaranteeing the security and safe return of the visitors. Pyongyang also failed to send their representatives to two of the three working-level contacts they had proposed to have at Panmunjom in an apparent effort to divert attention from the South's call for the trial free cross-border travel around Aug. 15, South Korean officials said.

North Korean groups—the Korean Students Committee and the Korean Catholic Association, and the preparation committee for the pan-national rally—earlier proposed holding working-level contacts with their South Korean counterparts at 9 A.M., 11 A.M. and 3 P.M., respectively, on Saturday. The North Koreans did not show up at the earlier two meetings, however, an official of the South Korean Secretariat for South-North Dialogue said.

On the part of the South, meanwhile, a bid by a group of five Catholic priests to attend the working-level contact with the North Korean Catholic Association was foiled as their travel to the truce village was intercepted by the military and police personnel at the Southern entrance of the freedom bridge, South of Panmunjom. The National Unification Board said the South Korean Government disapproved of the clergymen's contact with the North as Pyongyang is seeking to contact only with certain specific groups in South Korea without showing any interest in the South's proposal for free cross-border travel by people of all walks of social life in the two sides.

Visits Allowed During Games

SK1208102790 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 12 Aug 90 p 1

[Text] The government has decided to allow all the athletes, officials, journalists, and ordinary spectators for the September Beijing Asian Games to visit North Korea if they so desire after the games.

Also, it was learned, according to the 20 July special proposal, the government will again designate five days on and around Chusok [Korean Harvest Moon Festival] as the period of grand national exchange, and will advance a proposal concerning this period to North Korea. It was also learned that five days, from 1 to 5 October, will be set aside for the period of grand national exchange and that the government will receive applications in addition to those of 61,000 people which it previously received.

A high-ranking government official concerned said that "realizing at all costs the grand national exchange, which President No Tae-u proposed in his special announcement, is the intention of the government" and that "as a means to realize the grand national exchange in a more natural manner, the government will allow all the official and unofficial members of the ROK athletic delegation and all the spectators for the Asian Games to visit North Korea without any restraint."

This official also said that "the National Unification Board, the Agency for National Security Planning, and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice, Sports, and other ministries concerned have already agreed on this plan in principle" and that "a meeting of ministers concerned will be convened at the earliest possible day to make a final decision."

It was also learned that, in an effort to make it easier for people to visit North Korea after the Beijing Asian Games, the government is also positively examining a plan by which, without receiving prior permission from the government, people will visit North Korea after receiving a visa from the North Korean Embassy in Beijing and will notify the government of their visit after they return from their visit to North Korea.

A total of 6,500 Korean people—1,500 athletes, officials, and journalists and 5,000 spectators—are expected to visit China during the Asian Games, which will be held for 16 days from 22 September to 7 October.

Meanwhile, it was learned that approximately 1,000, including 600 athletes and officials, will participate in the Asian Games.

Contact Proposed for 13 Aug

SK1208070390 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0600 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Statement by Hong Song-chol, minister of the National Unification Board, on 12 August—read by announcer]

[Text] In his 20 July special announcement, President No Tae-u declared the five days from 13 to 17 August to be the period of grand national exchange and proposed that compatriots in the North and South visit each other via Panmunjom without any restriction. Accordingly, on 2 August, the government asked the North Korean side to guarantee personal safety and a safe return home for our side's people visiting the North, and said that even if the North Korean side selectively allows our people to visit the North, we will let them visit North Korea.

The government took this positive measure out of an earnest desire to realize the grand national exchange at all costs, thus opening ways for North-South visits and exchange and promoting North-South relations of reconciliation and cooperation. Toward this end, the government received applications from across the country from 4 to 8 August for people who want to visit North Korea, and received applications from 61,355 people. This vividly shows how ardently the separated families are looking forward to visiting their relatives and hometowns and what a strong will our people have for reunification.

Our side notified the North Korean side that we would hand over this valuable list on three occasions, on 9, 10, and 11 August. But regrettably, the North Korean side even refused to receive the list under incomprehensible excuses. This greatly disappointed not only those who applied for visits to the North but also all the fellow countrymen. Nevertheless, not through responsible official channels but through Pyongyang Radio, the North Korean side has repeatedly said that it invited our side's specific figures and organizations and that it would guarantee personal safety for them. Of course, our list of applicants includes some of those the North Korean side has invited.

Under these circumstances, in which the North Korean side has tried not to realize the grand national exchange, in an effort to realize the 20 July special announcement at all costs and to fulfill the earnest desire of all the fellow countrymen, the government hopes to realize North-South visits, though limited. The government hopes to realize the visit to North Korea by those among the members of the Catholic Priests' Association for Justice, the National Democratic Alliance of Korea, and other organizations that the North Korean side has invited who applied for visits to the North, and to let them visit during the period of grand national exchange from 13 to 17 August. Accordingly, I propose a contact of liaison officials of the two sides' authorities to hand over to the North Korean side the list of these people and all the reporters who applied for visits to the North and to receive a memorandum for personal safety for them from the North Korean side. We hope that this contact of liaison officials will be held at 1500 on 13 August at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom, and we will send two liaison officials. We expect that the North Korean side will take a corresponding measure and hope that it will hand over to us a list of North Korean people who want to visit our side.

Priests Blocked From Panmunjom

SK1208041190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Aug 90 p 3

[Excerpts] Five Catholic priests and their supporters failed to hold talks with North Korean offi[illegible]s on their planned trip to the North in Panmunjom yesterday as they were turned away by troops at Imjingak south of the truce village.

Before their departure, the activist clergymen, all members of the Catholic Priests Association for Justice (CPAJ), said in a press conference at Myong-dong Cathedral that they are going to discuss with North Koreans their planned trip to the North on Aug. 14-16. Fr. [Father] Nam Kuk-hyon and four other representatives of CPAJ said they discuss such matters as where to stay, whom to meet, and where to visit during their North Korean trip. [passage omitted]

On the Catholic priests' move, the National Unification Board said that it opposes the priests' holding talks with North Korean officials in Panmunjom. The board, however, said it is willing to convey the clergymen's intents to North Korean officials through its liaison official. As the priests and their entourage arrived in Imjingak at around 11 a.m., soldiers guarding the DMZ area blocked their passage to the truce village. Army officers said they cannot allow them to go to Panmunjom because they were not notified of their passage from board officials.

Money Exchange Booth Set Up

SK1308030590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0244 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—The Korea Exchange Bank set up a temporary currency exchange booth in a rest area near the truce village of Panmunjom for cross-border travelers on Monday, the first day of a five-day "grand exchanges of people" declared by South Korea.

There were no customers when the booth opened to exchange South and North Korean currencies and none are expected as the North has refused to open its side of the border. The bank is offering North Koreans 668 South Korean won per North Korean won up to a limit of 1,000 North Korean won, an official said.

South Koreans heading for the North during Aug. 13-17 will be allowed to buy U.S. dollars or Japanese yen at the booth at Imjingak, which is off limits normally to South Koreans, up to a limit of 1,000 dollars, according to the official. North Koreans may also exchange money at the bank's head office in Seoul, he said.

Further on N-S Conflict Over Pan-National Rally

Government Offer Rejected

SK1208125190 Seoul Television Service in Korean 1200 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Today, the South Korean side's delegation of the promotion headquarters of the pan-national rally issued a statement and said that it cannot accept the government's announcement that it would allow four organizations to visit North Korea, because, by nature, this announcement is about something different from the pan-national rally which is designed for delegates of the three parties—the North and South and overseas compatriots—to meet in Panmunjom on 15 August in order to contribute to hastening the reunification of the fatherland. The promotion headquarters asked the government to guarantee the holding of the pan-national rally first, instead of simply announcing that it would allow the four organizations, including the National Democratic Alliance of Korea and the National Council of University Student Representatives, to visit North Korea.

Seoul Rally Events Draw 300

SK1308061490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0614 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—A five-day pan-national rally began Monday morning at Seoul's Yonsei University, but 300 South Koreans were the only people present. Organizers had expected 10,000 people to turn out.

North Korea refused to send delegates and a contingent of overseas Koreans had failed to arrive as of 10 A.M. because of a delay in getting entry visas in Tokyo.

The opening ceremony was followed by a debate on peaceful reunification of Korea among organizers, students and guests. Tuesday's cultural events will include a festival of songs devoted to reunification on Yonsei campus and on Wednesday there will be a rally in the Demilitarized Zone dividing the two Koreas to mark the 45th anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japan. A mass for reunification is scheduled to be celebrated on Thursday at the truce village of Panmunjom and on Friday there will be a closing ceremony at Yonsei, the organizers said.

Yi Chang-pok, southern-side chairman of the organizing committee, promised the small gathering of dissidents and radicals that the committee would hold the main rally Wednesday at Panmunjom to provide momentum for reunification of the Korean peninsula. North Korea is expected to stage a separate rally.

On Sunday, the National Unification Board called for liaison officers from South and North Korea to meet in Panmunjom on Monday to exchange a list of South Koreans whom North Korea had invited to visit and a written guarantee from the North Korean Government of their safety. The North has invited members of Chonminnyon (the National Alliance of Democratic Movements), South Korea's largest dissident organization and organizer of the pan-national rally, the Catholic Priests' Association for Peace and Justice, and a dissident student organization in Seoul. It is unlikely that North Korea will send liaison officers to the meeting considering its position that the governments of the two sides should have nothing to do with the rally.

Chonminnyon complained that the proposal omitted any mention of opening the southern side of Panmunjom and said demanding a written guarantee from the North was a complicated condition that made it seem that the South had no intention of realizing dialogue. The organizers urged the government and the U.S. Army, which are in charge of guarding the southern half of Panmunjom, to open the village without condition. They also demanded that the government allow three organizing officials to enter Panmunjom for working-level talks with the northern-side organizers on Wednesday's rally.

South To Help North Improve U.S., Japan Ties

SK1208110690 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 12 Aug 90 p 1

[Text] It was learned on 12 August that the government has decided to positively assist North Korea in improving its relations with the United States and Japan if North Korea subscribes to the nuclear safeguards agreement of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The United States, Japan, and other allies of ours have said that they would improve their relations with North Korea if North Korea abandons its line on communizing South Korea by force of arms, proves it has abandoned terrorism, sincerely holds North-South dialogue, and subscribes to the nuclear safeguards agreement. International attention also has focused on North Korea's nuclear capability, and the United States and Japan have said they would improve their relations with North Korea only when North Korea subscribes to the nuclear safeguards agreement. Against this background, our government has decided to assist North Korea in improving its relations with the United States and Japan.

The government believes North Korea's subscription to the nuclear safeguards agreement would be a decisive opportunity to guarantee peace on the Korean peninsula and lead North Korea to open up and become a member of the international community.

In the summit talks in early June between President Bush and President Gorbachev, and the foreign ministerial talks on 1 and 2 August, the United States and the Soviet Union discussed North Korea's subscription to the nuclear safeguards agreement as one of the priority agenda items and agreed to make joint efforts to solve this problem.

North Korea also recently has requested direct negotiations with the United States to discuss the improvement of bilateral relations, and hinted it was willing to discuss its subscription to the nuclear safeguards agreement.

A high-ranking government official said on 12 August that "the primary purpose of the visit to North Korea by Shevardnadze, minister of foreign affairs of the Soviet Union, is to urge North Korea to subscribe to the nuclear safeguards agreement" and that "the government is willing to closely cooperate with the United States and Japan in improving their relations with North Korea if the North Korean authorities subscribe to the nuclear safeguards agreement."

DPRK Succession Reported Facing 'Difficulty'

SK1308041090 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 13 Aug 90 p 1

[Report from Tokyo by correspondent Kang Chon-sok]

[Text] It was revealed on 12 August that Kim Chong-il's succession to his father Kim Il-song is in difficulty owing to objections by North Korea's ruling circles.

A high-ranking Tokyo-based Western diplomatic source who just returned from visiting Beijing, quoting remarks by a Chinese Government official, said: "The North Korean Government recently informed the Chinese Government that Kim Chong-il's succession to power has become difficult owing to objections by North Korea's ruling circles." He continued: "There seems to be extensive moves in North Korea's ruling circles, including the military, opposing the hereditary power succession by Kim Chong-il."

Recalling the fact that the Chinese Government official had said that the North Korean side foresaw no difficulty in the junior Kim's power succession when Jiang Zemin,

general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, visited Pyongyang last March, the official said: "The fact that the North Korean Government itself admitted the difficulty in the junior Kim's power succession from his father shows considerable change in the situation in North Korea's ruling circles."

According to the source, the Chinese Government official said that this change in the North Korean situation has a bearing not only on the objections to the hereditary power succession by those in the ruling circles, but also on today's serious internal situation in which North Korea is suffering from the worst economic crisis since the start of the North Korean regime and international isolation.

The source said: "The Chinese Government official suggested that the Chinese Government may have some difficulty in unilaterally pushing ahead with improvement of relations with the ROK and ignoring this unstable situation in the North Korean power structure," hinting that North Korea's internal situation could become an obstacle to improvement of ROK-PRC relations.

South's Separated Families Hold Rally 13 Aug

SK1308030990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0247 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—Some 4,000 South Koreans who have been separated from their families since 1953 appealed to the South and North Korean Governments Monday to resume efforts to reunite the estimated 10 million members of separated families in the South and North.

At a rally co-sponsored by the Association of Five Northern Provincials and the Preparatory Committee for the Reunion of Separated Families, they called on the South and North Korean Governments to resurrect plans to reunite their families. They also made appeals to the International Red Cross and the United Nations. The only reunion of separated families since the Korean war was held simultaneously in Seoul and Pyongyang in 1985.

Afterwards, some 640 people went to Imjingak near the truce village of Panmunjom to put letters addressed to their families in the North into mailboxes as a token of their longing. There are no mail, telephone or other contacts between the two Koreas.

Shevardnadze Urged To Persuade North's Opening

SK1208101290 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 11 Aug 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Soviet Foreign Minister's Visit to Pyongyang"]

[Text] The visit of a Soviet foreign minister to Pyongyang is not unusual, and it can be expected at any time because North Korea is the Soviet Union's ally, one that receives military aid from the Soviet Union. But Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit to Pyongyang at such a delicate time—when Korea and the Soviet Union are improving their bilateral relations and when the South- North talks are deadlocked—carries particular weight.

It remains to be seen why Shevardnadze plans to visit Pyongyang and what kind of message he will bring to North Korea. Such being the case, we will refrain from interpreting the objective of Shevardnadze's visit to Pyongyang from a self-centered point of view. We only hope that the Soviet Union will make a constructive effort to improve relations between the South and North.

We still remember the words of Maslyukov, first deputy premier of the Soviet Union and head of the Soviet delegation to the ROK-USSR governmental talks. We hope that his words in a press interview—that the Soviet Union will play a very positive and helpful role in improving the South-North relations, including the South-North premier-level talks scheduled to be held in early September—will turn out to be true. This is why we pay such great attention to Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit to Pyongyang.

The way the Soviet Union reacted to Iraqi aggression in Kuwait has made clear what kind of attitude it adopts toward the settlement of regional feuds. The Soviet Union's attitude as such can be interpreted as a clear manifestation of its new stand based on new political thinking, that it will no longer regard regions embroiled in feuds as a stage of ideology-oriented contention for hegemonism. Such a shift in Soviet attitude is encouraging, given the fact that the Korean peninsula is a region where a major feud continues.

This is why we hope that during his visit to Pyongyang, Foreign Minister Shevardnadze will persuade North Korea to understand that reconciliation shorn of ideology is key to resolving the Korean peninsula question. In the course of watching tension rise in the Persian Gulf, the world has awakened to the fact that unconstrained military power and nuclear and chemical weapons that can be acquired by any military power among the Third World countries are formidable means capable of jeopardizing global detente and cooperation. North Korea is no exception in this recognition. This makes even more more necessary to work out a device to impose restriction on North Korea in its development of nuclear weapons. It is also particularly important to be vigilant against the possibility of North Korea's possessing chemical weapons. This is one thing that emphasizes the heavy responsibility of the Soviet Union.

The ROK and the Soviet Union have agreed to a simultaneous handling of economic cooperation and the establishment of diplomatic relations between them. Not only is North Korea against it, but it also now is employing all manner of diplomatic means to frustrate it. In addition, North Korea is expected to file to the UN Security Council a so-called document denouncing the United States and Korea for military buildup at a time when the UN member states are unanimously calling for

sanctions against Iraq in a UN Security Council resolution. This, too, is a scheme to make the preconditions for the establishment of diplomatic ties between Korea and the Soviet Union difficult. We believe that the Soviet Union knows better than anyone else whether the normalization of diplomatic relations between Korea and the Soviet Union to promote bilateral relations and to lay foundation for genuine cooperation will be helpful to building peace on the Korean peninsula. It is our hope the Soviet Union will make its own firm stand on such a question known to North Korea.

We also believe the Soviet Union came to a clear understanding in the course of conducting contacts with the ROK as to why South-North relations have not improved. The answer is very simple. It is a conflict between the united front strategy and the exchange-first policy. Without reform and restructuring based on new political thinking, it is absolutely impossible for North Korea to rid itself of the anachronistic logic of liberation and revolution. This is the primary factor blocks South-North dialogue.

The Soviet Union should try to persuade North Korea to accept this. This is one positive role we hope the Soviet Union will play in improving South-North relations. It should make North Korea realize what is happening now in the outside world. We will attentively watch Shevardnadze's visit to Pyongyang, made at such a delicate time.

Soviet Civilians in Pusan on Goodwill Visit

SK1308094790 Seoul Television Service in Korean 1200 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] This afternoon, a goodwill visiting group composed of 28 members of four Soviet civilian organizations, including the Soviet Human Rights Reforms Foundation, arrived in the Suyong Bay Yacht Race Course in Pusan aboard three 10-man yachts. This goodwill visiting group will stay in Pusan for about a week and will discuss ways to promote friendship between the two countries with officials of Pusan, businessmen, and representatives of civilian organizations. It is scheduled to leave on 16 August.

Travelers on Seoul-Moscow Route Increasing

SK1208024390 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 Aug 90 p 3

[Text] Air travelers are sharply increasing between Seoul and Moscow as the two nations have promoted economic cooperation and moved toward the establishment of diplomatic ties, a Korean Air official said yesterday.

The load factor of the Korean Air flight on the Seoul-Moscow route has increased to 99 percent, an almost four-fold rise over last March when its weekly service to Moscow began. The average number of passengers per flight rose from 38 passengers in April to 86 passengers in May and 99 passengers in July. The national flag carrier has been using 410-seat Boeing 747 jumbo jetliner on its Seoul and Moscow section. All its 410 seats were fully occupied Aug. 4, and the reservation rate is 100 percent for the flight scheduled for tomorrow, said a manager at the airline's reservation department.

"The rapid increase in the number of air passengers on the route is attributed to the improving relations and growing economic cooperation between Seoul and Moscow," he said. "So far most of our customers on the section are businessmen and government officials, but tourists will grow in great number, once the two countries set up diplomatic relations," the official added.

Twin City Plans for Pusan, Vladivostok, Nakhodka

SK1208040190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Aug 90 p 3

[Text] Moscow (AFP)—The South Korean coastal city of Pusan is expected to be twinned with the Soviet far eastern ports of Vladivostok and Nakhodka, TASS news agency reported Friday at the end of a three-day visit by a South Korean delegation to the region.

The delegation, headed by Rep. [Representative] Song Tu-ho, of the Democratic Liberal Party also discussed a project for a ferry service between Pusan and Vladivostok, the agency said. Prior to returning home, the delegation signed a memorandum providing for the development of contacts between scientists, writers and artists from the two countries.

During the visit, the delegation met with Soviet maritime territory leaders and representatives of the Association of Free Enterprise Zones which are due to be set up in the Soviet Far East. Plans were also considered for the establishment of small joint ventures in the maritime territory.

Government Plans To Increase Exports to USSR

SK1308074890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0733 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea wants to increase its exports to the Soviet Union to offset a sharp drop in exports to the Middle East since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, Trade and Industry Minister Pak Pil-su said Monday.

Korea has Mideast orders worth 388 million U.S. dollars and is seeking to minimize the damage to trade of events in the Gulf, Pak said. Korea has joined international sanctions against Iraq, which may deal a severe blow to its exports to Iraq and Kuwait, he said.

Pak said he expected exports to the Soviet Union to rise fast as circumstances for bilateral trade have improved, noting that official talks on promoting economic cooperation between the two nations in Moscow early this month were successful. Korea's main exports to the Middle East and the Soviet Union are consumer goods.

Pro-Pyongyang Paper on USSR-ROK Relations

SK1208034890 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 Aug 90 p 2

[Text] TOKYO (AFP)-The Soviet Union is unlikely to give up its efforts to establish diplomatic ties with south Korea despite Pyongyang's anger, according to a pro-north Korea newspaper here.

In its Aug. 11 edition, the PEOPLE'S KOREA front-paged an article entitled "Pyongyang hints at warning to Moscow on full relations with Seoul," commenting on a recent statement by a north Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman.

"It is highly unlikely that Moscow will listen to Pyongyang and reduce its efforts to establish relations with Seoul," the weekly English-language newspaper said. On July 29, the spokesman said it is "hard to understand why some countries concerned with the Korean question lay stress on the recognition of 'two Koreas' and 'establishment of relations' based on it, although they should clearly see through it and behave properly."

The newspaper said: "The Soviet Union was obviously included among 'some countries.'" A south Korean government delegation visited Moscow a week ago to discuss bilateral economic and diplomatic links with Soviet officials.

PRC, Japan, DPRK, ROK Agree on Air Route

SK1208041990 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Aug 90 p 1

[Text] BEIJING (Reuter)—China, Japan, North Korea and South Korea have agreed in principle to establish a new air route which would allow flights between Beijing and Tokyo to cross the Korean peninsula.

The NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY said on Saturday the new route, negotiated by officials from the Montreal-based International Civil Aviation Organization, would cut flying time between Beijing and Tokyo by an hour. Flights between China and Japan now make a long detour around the divided Korean peninsula. The official agency described the agreed route as Beijing-Pyongyang-Seoul-Tokyo.

A Western diplomat here said this would probably mean China's state airline CAAC would fly to Tokyo over North Korea while Japan Airlines would reach Beijing via South Korea. The agreement did not mean Pyongyang and Seoul would be linked, the diplomat said. But it could pave the way for a direct Beijing- Seoul link although China and South Korea do not have diplomatic relations. North and South Korea have had no direct links by air or rail since the end of their war in 1953.

Western airlines, including British Airways and West Germany's Lufthansa, are negotiating with China to fly the potentially lucrative route from Europe across northern China to Beijing and then on to Seoul.

Businessmen To Visit PRC To Help Cooperation

SK1308093090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0846 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—Yi Han-pin, president of the International Private Economic Council of Korea (IPECK), Kim Pok- tong, IPECK adviser and brother-in-law of President No Tae-u, Kim U-chung, chairman of the Daewoo Business Group, and Hong Chae- hyong, governor of the state-run Export-Import Bank of Korea, are to visit China on Aug. 26-Sept. 2 to discuss ways to promote bilateral economic cooperation.

It is the highest-level private mission to visit China since the massacre of pro-democracy protesters in Tiananmen Square last year. The 18-member group is expected to meet Zheng Hongye, chairman of the China Council for Promotion of International Trade. China refused to issue a visa to Yi, a former deputy prime minister, in March so he was unable to travel to Hunan Province. The mission will not discuss the exchange of trade offices.

Foreign Ministry Says Group To Visit Mongolia

SK1308045390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0422 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—A group of South Koreans will visit Mongolia from Aug. 18-27 to discuss ways to accelerate economic cooperation, the Foreign Ministry said Monday.

The 10-member team, led by Ambassador-at-Large Yun Uk-sup, includes executives from Hyundai and Samsung business groups. They will meet Mongolian Government officials and businessmen to discuss establishing a mutual private economic cooperative council, the ministry said. South Korea and Mongolia established diplomatic ties on March 26.

Korea-ASEAN Meeting To Be Held in Jakarta

SK1108062390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0606 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 (YONHAP)—The first meeting of the Korea-ASEAN JSCC (Association of Southeast Asian Nations Joint Sectoral Cooperation Committee) will be held in Jakarta, Indonesia, on Monday and Tuesday, the Foreign Ministry said Saturday.

The delegations of over 50 working-level officials each will be headed by Korean Assistant Foreign Minister Yi Ki-chu and the assistant foreign ministers of the six ASEAN-member nations, a ministry spokesman said. They will discuss ways to manage the Korea-ASEAN JSCC, increase mutual cooperation in such fields as trade, investment and tourism and conduct joint business, he said.

Burma

Information Committee Holds 102d News Conference

BK1108155590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Excerpts] The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] Information Committee held its 102d news conference with local and foreign journalists at 1300 today in the reception hall of the Ministry of Defense. [passage omitted]

At the news conference, the Information Committee explained matters relating to the spreading of rumors at home and abroad and the involvement of some diplomats. In the explanation, the Information Committee said rumors have been spreading that recently some unscrupulous persons in Yangon [Rangoon] and Mandalay had been trying to create disturbances on 8 August 1990 to commemorate the second anniversary of 8-8-88 [the mass democratic demonstrations which started on 8 August 1988], that schools had to be closed in Mandalay because of unrest, that some students and monks were arrested, that a student was bayoneted when security forces tried to disperse the crowd, that a woman was bayoneted, and that basic commodities prices had risen in anticipation of forthcoming disturbances.

The Information Committee has said that these rumors are totally false and that authentic news had been reported on 7 August and similar authentic news is being reported daily. It could be seen that, although authentic news is being reported, some unscrupulous people are trying to spread all kinds of false rumors. Unscrupulous people are using coincidence in trying to create unrest with an intent to destroy the country. As you journalists know, just as false rumors have been reported in the country, false rumors were being spread outside the country very quickly. [passage omitted]

The news reported by foreign media have attributed their source to diplomats. You journalists know whether these rumors, which the foreign media and broadcasting stations have reported, are true or false. We would like to say that these rumors are totally untrue. We have already reported what is true. If a person is killed, it cannot be concealed as people have relatives and live in a social circle. Before, because of these kinds of news and rumors, the unexpected had happened. The Information Committee has clearly stated that the news reportedly sent by the diplomats is totally false. We would like to tell foreign broadcasting stations, foreign media, and social organizations, who believe in news related by diplomats, to be aware that they are being cheated. [passage omitted]

Continuing, the Information Committee explained that 8 August disturbances in Mandalay and other townships had actually been reported in the newspapers. News had been reported in order to prevent these kinds of disturbances. We have heard that there are people saying that Major General Myo Nyunt, commander of Yangon military command, is spreading rumors to create disturbances. The truth is that on 6 August, Major General Myo Nyunt, commander of Yangon military command, in order to prevent disturbances and preserve the peace and tranquility of the country, spoke as a preventive measure. The reason for his speech is not because of other reasons, but because of the National League for Democracy's [NLD] directive no. 24, dated 2 August.

We would like to present some extracts from that directive no. 24. The directive said that 8 August 1990 is the second anniversary of the beginning of mass democratic demonstrations that started on 8 August 1988. In order to remember that day, the second anniversary commemoration ceremonies are to be held in accordance with plans approved by the state and division organizing committee in townships where situations permit. Commemoration ceremonies will not be held in places where the situation does not permit. Members are also urged to celebrate 8-8-88 by distributing and reading the commemorative letter sent from the League's headquarters. The directive was signed by Chit Khaing, NLD Central Executive Committee secretary and sent to states, divisions, and townships NLD offices, Central Affairs Departments, and Central Affairs Committees. It can be studied and known that the NLD's directive no. 24, is a directive instigating unrest. [passage omitted]

We received the directive on 4 August, and Major General Myo Nyunt, commander of Yangon military command, spoke on 6 August as a preventive measure regarding disturbances. Authorities had already summoned responsible NLD personnel and have officially warned them for issuing the directive. By giving explanations like this, the people can draw relevant conclusions on the false rumors and disturbances and through you, journalists, we would like the people to know the truth and the reality.

Next the Information Committee members answered questions from the journalists. [passage omitted]

In response to JIJI correspondent U Maung Maung's [question] on the issuing of the 10th standard examination results and the SLORC's view of the Iraq-Kuwait crises, the Information Committee said preparations are being made for announcing the 10th standard examination results in the near future.

Myanmar [Burma] has diplomatic relations with Iraq. Although Myanmar has no diplomatic relations with Kuwait, Myanmar has other friendly relations with both countries. Both are friendly countries, and Myanmar is abiding by the UN Charter on international relations. Opinions and views differ even among the family of 20 Arabic countries regarding the Iraq-Kuwait crisis. Myanmar is a country far away from them. It is difficult to give a clear-cut view from the news reports that are not 100 percent reliable on the Iraq-Kuwait crisis, because we only know about the situation from the radio and newspapers. We will follow the UN resolution on this matter. [passage omitted]

In response to XINHUA correspondent Mr. Chen Binqi on Myanmar's view on the resumption of diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Indonesia, the Information Committee replied that since both the PRC and Indonesia are friends of Myanmar, we are glad about the resumption of ties between the two friendly countries. [passage omitted]

The chief editor from MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY's foreign news department, U Kyaw Min, said that according to rumors, this week two people entered an embassy and requested to meet responsible personnel regarding important matters. The embassy security guards accepted them for a while and then took them from the embassy to Washington Park [living quarters for U.S. Embassy staff] in Yangon. The two people were kept under guard in Washington Park. They are also well looked after and it has become news that they have been there for a fortnight now. Rumors say that they have asked for political asylum. That is why I would like to know whether the Information Committee knows about the matter and if the Information Committee does know, I would like some explanation regarding the matter.

The Information Committee replied that they do not know anything about it. Apart from embassy staff, outsiders are not allowed to use embassy premises. The embassy is officially informed if things incompatible with diplomatic ethics occur. We do not know because up to this time we have not received any information. [passage omitted] The embassy building has been given only to perform embassy duties. [passage omitted]

XINHUA correspondent Mr. Duan Ting Chang said that in the past three or four days, there had been disturbances in some townships and asked whether people who took part in the disturbances were arrested and how the situation was dealt with and whether there are plans on what action to take regarding similar disturbances in the future. The Information Committee replied that authorities are investigating the people behind these disturbances. The main cause for all these disturbances in the country is NLD directive no. 24, and responsible personnel were summoned and warned yesterday [9 Aug]. The SLORC's order no. 2/88 and announcement no. 8/88 [orders prohibiting gathering of more than five persons] are still in force, and people offending these laws will be dealt with accordingly.

The news conference ended at 1420.

Military Denies 4 Civilians Killed in Mandalay

BK1008144090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1411 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Rangoon, Aug 10 (AFP)—Burma's military government Friday accused foreign diplomats of spreading rumours that four civilians had been killed by security forces in the northern city of Mandalay. Colonel Than Tun, deputy head of Burmese military intelligence, denied reports that four people had been killed in Mandalay on August 8 when security forces quelled protests by students and monks in the city.

Mandalay, Burma's ancient capital, some 250 miles (400 kilometres) north of here, is known as a centre of dissent led by high school students and young Buddhist monks

Col. Than Tun told a weekly Defence Ministry press conference here that two groups of resident diplomats who were in Mandalay at the time had "fabricated news with an ulterior motive" and their reports of the alleged shootings had been reproduced in the foreign media. "There was no basis whatsoever to these false reports, and the only reason they had sent these fabricated rumours is to deliberately create instability in our country with intent to destroy it," Col. Than Tun said.

Attacking foreign interference in Burmese affairs, he said: "It is high time they stopped such activities—unbecoming of diplomats."

The military authorities have already published a factual report of the incidents in the state media, he said, and warned the public not to be swayed by "false and fabricated news."

Col. Than Tun would not identify the diplomats involved, but he said the military authorities were fully aware of their identities.

However, he confirmed that there had been public disturbances in Mandalay, Rangoon and other major towns in upper Burma before and on August 8, the second anniversary of the 1988 nationwide pro-democracy demonstrations.

The popular movement was crushed in September, 1988, when Army generals led by General Saw Maung, chairman of the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), seized power in a military coup.

"There have been no arrests of the instigators of unrests," Col. Than Tun said. "We have, however, been questioning some people in line with investigations underway to expose those who instigated (the) unrest." He linked the disturbances created by "some rowdy youths" to a National League for Democracy (NLD) statement, which urged its members to commemorate August 8 as the second anniversary of Burma's freedom movement. The NLD notification, released several days before the anniversary date, has been dubbed by the military authorities as "instigative." "We feel that the NLD directive had caused these recent unrests," Col. Than Tun said, adding that authorities on Thursday summoned the party member responsible to issue an official warning.

A ban on public gatherings of more than five persons, imposed by the SLORC, is still in effect, Col. Than Tun said, adding that Burma is still being governed by martial law.

Parents, Teachers Urged To Control Students

BK1008152090 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Colonel Pe Thein, minister for health and education and commander of the Universities Training Corps, held a coordination meeting with personnel of the Basic Education Department of the Ministry of Education at the theater of the Institute of Education Research at 1600 today.

Speaking at the meeting, the minister said that presently, students and youths are shouting slogans and creating disturbances in some schools and that this it is very dangerous for the children and the country. The minister called on the students, parents, and teachers to work together to prevent these incidents. The minister said that the majority of the students do not want the schools to close. He said because of these instigations and the encouragement from abroad, these young and innocent students are doing what they should not be doing. He urged all responsible teachers, headmasters, and township education officers to coordinate among themselves to control the situation.

Continuing, the minister said that destructive elements, UG's [underground elements], and BCP's [members of the Burma Communist Party] who do not want to see the country prosper are using and exploiting the students and youths, and elements abroad who only care for their own interests are fabricating reports. The minister said that it will be the Myanmar [Burmese] citizens who suffer. He urged the responsible authorities from education circles to uphold their patriotism by keeping the situation under control so as to prevent undesirable conditions. He called on the teachers to discharge their duties well as public servants.

The minister said that the SLORC [State Law and Order Restoration Council] government is not the enemy of the students and their parents as it is a government which is striving to raise the standard of living and to promote national development. He appealed to all parents and teachers, therefore, to control their children. [passage omitted]

'Saboteurs' Detonate Bombs in Myitkyina 8 Aug

BK1208064690 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Vicious saboteurs have been disrupting peace and tranquillity and setting off bombs to kill and maim innocent people. Accordingly at about 1620 on 8 August, a time bomb was set off at the bus depot at the corner of Yadana and Merchant streets in Myitkyina used by Road Transport Corporation [RTC] passenger buses plying between downtown Myitkyina and (Maw Phang) village. Shrapnel from the bomb, hidden among the baskets and placed in front of the bus depot office, wounded RTC staff worker Tin Win on his left buttock, right elbow, right shin, and on his neck and lips. The shrapnel also wounded RTC bus driver Tin Aung on his right buttock and along his spine.

At about 1625, another time bomb exploded again in the back of an RTC bus with registration plate, Salon-4942, while the bus was waiting for passengers. Hla Win, ticket conductor of the bus, was wounded in his right arm by shrapnel.

Responsible officials sent the three wounded people to the hospital for treatment. However, the driver, Tin Aung, succumbed to his wounds.

Also at about 0500 on 9 August, two time bombs exploded in the clock tower at the corner of Yadana and (?Thakin Mya Sein) Streets. The dial glasses and the hands of the clock were blown off on the eastern and western sides and the clock was totally destroyed. However, no injuries were reported in the blasts.

Authorities concerned are investigating the links to the blasts so as to urgently expose the culprits.

Myitkyina-Mandalay Train Said Hit by Mine

BK1208130090 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1235 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Destructive KIA [Kachin Independence Army] insurgents have been disrupting peace and tranquillity and carrying out destructive work to kill and maim innocent commuters. Accordingly, the No. 55 special express passenger train which left Myitkyina for Mandalay at 0700 today was hit by a mine planted by the KIA insurgents at about 0755 when it reached milestone No. 701/20 between (Tigawng) and (Maya). The mine blasted open the flooring and the left side of the No. 1 coach behind the engine and wounded five passengers—three males and two females. [passage omitted] Authorities concerned have sent the five wounded passengers to Myitkyina hospital for treatment.

The mine blast also ripped up about three feet of railroad tracks. Tactical Operations Commander Colonel Maung Ngo and Column Commander Major Tin Tin Htay supervised the repair work being done by a rail repair team headed by a regional rail engineer of the Myanmar [Burma] Railways. The team was able to bring the derailed coach upright at 1330.

The repair work on the rail line, jointly carried out by Defense Services personnel and the rail workers, was completed at 1420. Rail services can now operate as usual, it was learned.

General Soe Myint Inspects Construction

BK1308070490 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0630 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Brigadier General Soe Myint, chairman of the Mon State Law and Order Restoration Council and commander of the Southeast Military Command [titles as heard], in the company of Colonel Tin Aye, deputy

commander of the Southeast Military Command; the chairman of the Moulmein township zone and township law and order restoration council; and regional departmental officials concerned, inspected ongoing work at the construction site of a state middle school, the dispensary at the Myaing Thaya public service housing complex, and the departmental store at 0700 on 11 August. [passage omitted]

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Said Ready To Contact Iraq on Workers

BK1108075590 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0720 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Aug 11 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said Saturday [11 August] he was prepared to contact Iraqi President Saddam Husayn in an effort to bring home Malaysians stranded in Kuwait and Iraq. "There has been a suggestion that I speak with President Saddam Husayn if he can be contacted and would want to speak with me, I am willing," he told a press conference here. [sentence as received]

The government would do everything possible to bring home the stranded Malaysians, he added. He also said that the Foreign Ministry would take up the suggestion of relatives of the stranded Malaysians that the government use the good offices of third parties such as King Husayn of Jordan and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat to enable the Malaysians to leave Kuwait and Iraq.

The prime minister said that though the government had made arrangements to bring back the Malaysians through Saudi Arabia or Jordan, the task had been made difficult owing to a disruption of telecommunication links.

Dr. Mahathir said the Iraqi ambassador to Malaysia, Mustafa Muhammad al-Naqshabandi, who was summoned by the government, was unable to give any information on the stranded Malaysians. However, information gathered from other foreign diplomats, especially the Swedish, indicated that all Malaysians in the two Gulf countries were safe, he said.

Replying to a question, he said the Foreign Ministry had prepared a contingency plan, which included sending a special aircraft, to bring home the Malaysians.

Dr. Mahathir said no country in the world had expected Iraq to invade Kuwait and none of them were able to get their citizens out in time.

Ministry Official on Efforts To Return Citizens

BK1108092490 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Malaysian embassies in West Asia are working round the clock to make arrangements for Malaysians trapped in the Gulf crisis to return home. The secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Datuk Ahmad Kamil Jaafar, told newsmen in Kuala Lumpur that the Malaysian Embassy in Baghdad is working toward sending Malaysian officials for talks. He disclosed that the Iraqi Government has handed over seven Malaysians stranded at the Kuwaiti naval base to the Malaysian Embassy in Baghdad. All others are reported to be in good health. He said all the Malaysians were [words indistinct] by the Iraqi Government.

Earlier, Datuk Ahmad Kamil had discussions with the Iraqi ambassador to Kuala Lumpur, Mr. Mustafa Muhammad al-Naqshabandi. He [word indistinct] that Iraq hopes to facilitate the departure of Malaysians caught in the Gulf crisis.

Singapore

Foreign Ministry Supports UN Resolution on Iraq

BK1008121490 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Singapore fully supports the United Nations Security Council resolution declaring Iraq's annexation of Kuwait as null and void. A Foreign Ministry statement said Iraq's action has no validity. It also welcomes the Security Council's determination to restore the authority of the legitimate Government of Kuwait.

Singapore urges the international community to fully support the efforts of the UN to withdraw the Iraqi annexation of Kuwait. The Foreign Ministry also reiterates its support for the council's resolution condemning the Iraqi invasion. It says Singapore will implement provisions of the resolution which calls for sanctions against Iraq.

Freeze on Kuwaiti Government Assets Announced

BK1108095290 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 10 Aug 90 p 3

[By Mary Kwang]

[Text] Singapore has frozen all Kuwaiti government assets here, with all transfers of such assets now requiring the approval of the Monetary Authority of Singapore [MAS], said Finance Minister Richard Hu, yesterday.

Dr Hu, who is also the MAS chairman, said: "This is because we want to make sure that the funds and assets belonging to the Kuwaiti government are not removed illegally to other parties."

Dr Hu, the Kreta Ayer MP [member of parliament], was responding to a query by THE STRAITS TIMES on this. He had earlier opened a National Day stamp exhibition in his constituency.

The latest MAS move is one mechanism adopted by Singapore to comply with this week's United Nations decision to impose economic sanctions against Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait on Aug 2. On the trade front, Minister of State (Trade and Industry) Mah Bow Tan said earlier this week that the Government was working out the actual mechanics of implementing the UN sanctions.

The Kuwaiti government, through its investment arm, Kuwait Investment Office (KIO), has a 33-per cent stake in OUB [Overseas Union Bank] Centre, 49-per cent equity in the stockbroking firm, JM Sassoon, and other multi-million dollar investments in the region.

Dr Hu said that the power to freeze Kuwaiti assets was already provided for under the MAS Act, and that there was therefore no necessity for the Government to pass special legislation for this. However, he added that MAS approval was not required for transactions of private Kuwaiti parties, and that these could still continue to be done.

He said that Singapore banks had some assets with Kuwaiti banks but "they are not large". At the same time, apart from the KIO, Arab institutions as a whole did not have large asset holdings in Singapore, he added. Dr Hu said that the banking community in Singapore and the MAS were not worried by the freeze.

However, Kuwaiti institutions are not the only ones affected by the freeze on Kuwaiti assets. Some non-Arab banks here have also suspended dealings with other Arab banks, such as those based in Bahrain. Commenting on this, Dr Hu said that the suspension was not controlled by MAS. He said: "This is a private matter between the banks. Non-Arab banks are worried in case the war spreads."

The US Treasury has meanwhile blocked off transactions with Middle Eastern banks owned by the Kuwaiti government and those in which Kuwait is regarded to be the outright owner because of significant stakes in them. It is requesting ownership and control details by next Friday from other Arab banks before deciding on their status. The US Treasury's move has in the meantime prompted non-Arab banks to suspend business with other Arab banks.

PRC's Li Peng Arrives 11 Aug To Discuss Ties

BK1108065190 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0611 GMT 11 Aug 90

[By Syed Imran Alsagoff]

[Text] Singapore Aug 11 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Prime Minister Li Peng of China arrived here Saturday for a three-day official visit to Singapore at the invitation of Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew. The Chinese premier, who flew in from Jakarta, was accompanied by his wife, Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Minister Zheng Toubin and senior officials. They were met on arrival at Changi airport by Second Deputy Prime Minister Ong Teng Cheong, who is also the minister-in-attendance.

Li, who was in Indonesia to preside over the resumption of diplomatic ties between the two countries, was driven to the Istana [Palace], where he was met by Lee, for a ceremonial welcome.

The two leaders are scheduled to hold talks this evening and they are expected to touch on establishing ties between the two countries, changes in the international situation, the region and bilateral matters.

China and Singapore are expected to establish formal diplomatic ties before the end of the year.

Talks With Lee Kuan Yew

BK1108115290 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] The visiting Chinese Prime Minister Mr. Li Peng said progress has been made in relations between China and Singapore. He said the visits by both was the result of the joint efforts taken by both countries over the past few years.

Mr. Li Peng who arrived this morning for a three-day official visit said he is here to enhance friendship, deepen understanding and expand cooperation between China and Singapore. In this way he hopes this would lead to a future (?expansion) and more comprehensive relations between the two nations.

The Chinese prime minister is accompanied by his Foreign Affairs Minister, Mr. Qian Qichen, the Minister for Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, Mr. Zhen Toubin and senior officials. This afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Li Peng called on President Wee Kim Wee and the first lady at the Istana [Palace].

Mr. Li Peng later held talks with Mr. [Prime Minister] Lee Kuan Yew at the Istana annex. They discussed changes in the international scene and their influence on the regional situation. The Cambodian question and bilateral matters were also covered.

Later, Mr. Li Peng and Mr. Lee Kuan Yew were [words indistinct]. Among those present on the Singapore side were the first deputy prime minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong, the foreign minister, Mr. Wong Kan Seng, and the trade and industry minister, Brigadier-General Lee Hsien Loong.

Lee Kuan Yew Speaks

BK1108161690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1530 GMT 11 Aug 89

[Text] Singapore, Aug 11 (AFP)—Singapore is urging the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to

press a solution of the Cambodian conflict on the country's feuding factions, Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew said Saturday [11 August].

Mr. Lee, speaking at a dinner in honour of visiting Chinese Premier Li Peng, also urged China to push the Khmer Rouge, its Cambodian allies, into accepting a UN-based settlement of the 11-year-old civil war. He made his remarks after talks with Mr. Li, who flew to the island republic with a top-level delegation. Mr. Li is the first Beijing leader to visit Singapore since 1981.

Mr. Lee said Vietnam had to learn a lesson for its 1978 military move into Cambodia to topple the Khmer Rouge and set up a government in Phnom Penh that it has defended through a years of fighting. "Singapore would urge the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, including China, to press a solution upon the Cambodian factions by forming a Cambodian supreme national council (SNC) which includes all the parties of the Cambodian conflict," Mr. Lee said.

"Vietnam must not be allowed to block the formation of a SNC, which will give all Cambodian parties an equal chance of winning in the free elections to follow, and which will be held under UN supervision in a politically neutral environment," he said.

"China should get the Khmer Rouge to undertake to abide by a UN-based settlement," Mr. Lee said.

He earlier held Singapore's first high-level talks with China on Cambodia since the United States, another permament member of the Security Council, announced a shift in its Cambodia policy last month. Washington said it was withdrawing support for the UN seat held by the tripartite coalition government, which groups the Khmer Rouge and two non-communist factions and is backed by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

On the economic front, Mr. Lee expressed the hope that China would join the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum "when she considers the time appropriate" and also agree to the participation of "the economies" of Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Little official world filtered out on the talks between the two prime ministers, which had been expected to centre on Cambodia and a normalisation of relations after Beijing's move to resume diplomatic ties with Indonesia three days ago. "Singapore hopes to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China in the next few months," said Mr. Lee, who had previously announced he was planning to visit Beijing in the near future.

Mr. Li said in his speech that "the Chinese Government is ready, together with the Singaporean Government, to work for the fulfillment of this historic mission at an early date in the spirit of mutual respect and mutual understanding."

But Singapore officials have said many administrative details remained to be worked out as well as the consequences for Singapore's ties with Taiwan.

In addition to economic links, Singapore military forces use facilities on the nationalist Chinese-ruled island for training. Commentators here suggested that such cooperation could prove a sticky issue with Beijing. "The retention of the Taiwan facilities is thus a matter of national survival for Singapore and is likely to be non-negotiable vis-a-vis formalisation of Sino-Singapore ties," the STRAITS TIMES newspaper said in an editorial. It hoped Mr. Li "would allow good sense to prevail."

The Chinese premier, accompanied here by Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Economic Relations and Trade Minister Zheng Tuobin, flew into Singapore from Indonesia where he presided over the resumption of diplomatic ties after a 23-year break.

On Sunday, Mr. Li was to meet with First Deputy Premier Goh Chok Tong, Mr. Lee's successor designate. The Chinese leader was also to tour Singapore and hold a news conference before leaving Monday for Bangkok.

Goh Chok Tong Views Ties

BK1208122490 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] The first deputy prime minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong, says Singapore's younger leaders hope to build up personal relations with the new generation of Chinese leaders. He was speaking at the lunch which he hosted in honor of the visiting Chinese prime minister, Mr. Li Peng.

Mr. Goh said [words indistinct] they have to be based on mutual benefit with both sides (?having) a full understanding of each other. This, he said, face to face meeting and frequent pleasant dialogues [words indistinct].

The first deputy prime minister said Singapore's leaders look forward to frequent exchanges between the two governments. Mr. Goh noted that relationship between Singapore and China had grown significantly. He said Singapore hopes to see in the near future the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Mr. Goh said the recent normalization of ties between Indonesia and China will contribute to the peace and stability in the region.

The Chinese prime minister in his speech said he was confident the existing friendly relations and cooperation between China and Singapore will be further developed. He said his visit was to acquaint himself with the younger generation of Singapore's leaders and to call on old friends. Li Peng said the first deputy prime minister has contributed a lot to the friendship between the two countries. The Chinese premier said that during his talks, leaders of both countries shared similar views on many issues. He expressed the hope that in the years ahead, both sides will continue to express [words indistinct].

Among those who attended the lunch were several cabinet ministers, members of parliament, and leading businessmen. Mr. Li Peng was briefed over in an inside of a Singapore housing playground. He made a trip to Ang Mo Kio new town. The Chinese Premier also visited Jurong Town (?shipyard).

Minister for Trade and Industry Brigadier General Lee Hsien Loong held talks today with the Chinese minister for foreign economic relations, and trade, Mr. Zheng Tuobin, and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Wong Kan Seng met his Chinese counterpart Mr. Qian Qichen.

U.S. Cambodia Policy 'Criticized'

OW1208140790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1327 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Singapore, Aug. 12 KYODO—Singapore and China criticized the United States on Sunday for its change of policy toward Cambodia, which they said made the 11-year Cambodian war more difficult to settle, informed sources said.

Both sides shared the critical view toward the U.S. about-face in a series of meetings Sunday between Chinese Premier Li Peng and Singapore First Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, between Foreign Ministers Qian Qichen and Wong Kan Seng, and between Singapore Trade and Industry Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Chinese Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Minister Zheng Tuobin.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker announced July 18 that the United States would withdraw support for the three-party guerrilla coalition's representation in the United Nations and open dialogue with Vietnam, which installed the pro-Hanoi government in Phnom Penh. U.S. and Vietnamese officials began talks on Cambodia in New York last Tuesday.

Singapore and China agreed that the U.S. policy shift has made a solution to the Cambodian conflict more difficult and that both countries will continue their support for the three-party coalition to maintain its seat in the world body, the sources said.

Singapore asked China to exert its influence on the China-backed Khmer Rouge faction, militarily the strongest of the three guerrilla factions, to bring about a political solution in Cambodia, the sources said.

In other matters discussed, the Chinese side asked Singapore to suspend the training of its military in Taiwan, which China says is part of its territory, they said.

But, the Singaporean officials told the Chinese that Singapore needs to use military facilities in Taiwan because Singapore is too small to accommodate military training.

Both sides also discussed prospects for expanded economic relations after establishing diplomatic ties, the sources said. Chinese Premier Li and Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew agreed in a meeting on Saturday to open diplomatic relations within two or three months, they said.

Li Peng Holds News Conference

OW1208143190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1411 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Singapore, Aug. 12 KYODO—Chinese Premier Li Peng, brushing aside Singapore's military ties with Taiwan as a hindrance to sealing friendly ties, said on Sunday China is ready to establish formal diplomatic relations with Singapore. "The two sides have reached a wide agreement on this matter and there should be no major problem existing in the way," Li told a news conference on the second day of his three-day official visit to the island state.

This is the first official visit to Singapore by a Chinese premier in nine years. The sacked Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang visited Singapore in 1981, when he was premier.

Li said that apart from some "technical matters" which are still being thrashed out by the two sides, "there is no difficulty for China to establish relations with Singapore ... whatsoever as far as specific time is concerned." China will leave the question of the exact time to establish relations to the Singapore Government, he said.

On Saturday, Li and other members of his delegation, including Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Minister Zheng Tuobin, held talks with Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew. The issue of establishing ties was discussed at that time. Although no specific date has been given, the two countries are widely expected to establish ties before the end of this year.

Singapore Prime Minister Lee himself, who has said he will visit China this fall, said at a dinner in honor of Premier Li on Saturday that relations are expected to be established in "the next few months." Diplomats and analysts here say Lee's trip to China this autumn would be a good opportunity for the two sides to establish relations, noting that Lee will step down after being in power as prime minister for the past 31 years.

The Chinese premier's remarks show that China does not regard Singapore's present relations with Taiwan, particularly Singapore's military cooperation with Taiwan as a big stumbling block. Analysts say Taiwan's provision of facilities for Singapore to train its Armed Forces is a major problem. Another hitch is that Taiwan's trade mission carries the name "Trade Mission of the Republic of China."

Referring to the military ties between Singapore and Taiwan, Li said, "This is a fact and we should not mind it too much." "As far as this problem is concerned, proper arrangements will be made in the process of negotiations after the establishment of diplomatic relations. We very much sympathize with Singapore as far as

the Singapore position is concerned and it is necessary for Singapore to have its own defense forces."

The normalization of ties between China and Indonesia on August 8 has paved the way for Singapore to establish ties with China because Singapore has earlier said that it will establish ties only after Indonesia did so. Singapore, having a predominantly Chinese population, wanted to avoid hurting the political sensitivities of its neighbors. Indonesia, which froze ties with China in 1967 after accusing Beijing of supporting a communist coup attempt in Jakarta two years earlier, restored the relationship with Beijing on August 8. Singapore currently has friendly but nondiplomatic ties with both China and Taiwan. Both China and Taiwan have exchanged trade representatives with Singapore.

The impending fate of Taiwan's trade mission if Singapore establishes diplomatic ties with China was made clear when Li firmly said China wants Taiwan to keep its trade organizations in any country where China has diplomatic relations "at people to people level and nongovernmental in nature." But he said Taiwan is free to continue economic and trade relations with these countries. Singapore's trade with China amounted to 5.6 billion Singapore dollars last year, while its trade with Taiwan was 7 billion Singapore dollars.

Comments on Zhao Ziyang

BK1208152290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1443 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Singapore, Aug 12 (AFP)—China's sacked Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang is living a "good life" but still under investigation for his actions during the political turmoil in Beijing, Prime Minister Li Peng said Sunday. Asked at a news conference here whether Mr. Zhao, who was ousted for sympathising with pro-democracy protesters in Beijing last year, would return to politics, Mr. Li gave no specifics about his fate or future.

"Comrade Zhao Ziyang committed mistakes last year and the investigation of him is still going on," Mr. Li said through an interpreter. "According to the practices in China he still enjoys the treatment he enjoyed in the past and he is leading a good life."

Mr. Li also said China had been "very lenient" in its treatment of students involved in the pro-democracy movement that sparked a bloody confrontation with troops in June 1989. "Along with the further development of stable political and economic situation in China, we intend to take more lenient policies regarding these people, especially young students," he said, declining to discuss specific cases.

Mr. Li refused to be drawn in on speculation about politics in China after the death of elder statesman Deng Xiaoping. "Comrade Deng Xiaoping enjoys very good health," Mr. Li said. "He's now resting at the coast and as far as I know he still swims in the sea every day." "We all hope that he will enjoy good health and a long life."

Discusses APEC, Other Issues

BK1208154090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1522 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Singapore, Aug 12 (AFP)—China has no objection to Hong Kong and Taiwan taking part in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, but Beijing's participation should be settled first, Premier Li Peng said Sunday. He also said that China, which just resumed diplomatic ties with Indonesia, saw no major problems in normalising relations with Singapore and was willing to let the island republic continue to train some of its soldiers in Taiwan.

On the question of participation in APEC, launched by Australia last year, Mr. Li stressed there there was no question of "three Chinas," as Taiwan was a part of China and Hong Kong would revert to Beijing's control in 1997. "First, from our point of view, we should settle the question of China's participation in a forum. As for the other two areas, they may take part as regional economies," he told a news conference.

The formulation matched the solution floated by officials of APEC at their ministerial meeting here two weeks ago. APEC currently groups Australia, Brunei, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and the United States.

Mr. Li, who flew in here for a weekend visit after presiding over the resumption of Beijing's diplomatic ties with Indonesia, said China and Singapore were in "wide agreement" on normalisation. "There should be no major problems existing in the way," he said. Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew has said he hoped to make the move in the next few months.

Singapore had long said it would be ready to establish ties with Beijing once the Chinese ended their 23-year-old freeze on relations with Indonesia. But some concerns remained, particularly the consequences for Singapore's trade and other links with Taiwan, which provides this country with facilities to train some of its Armed Forces.

Mr. Li, however, said that he sympathised with Singapore's need for such facilities. "This is a fact and we should not mind too much," he told reporters, speaking through an interpreter. "As far as this matter is concerned the proper arrangments will be made in the process of negotiations on the establishment of diplomatic relations," the Chinese leader said.

Mr. Li also said China eventually hoped to normalise relations with Vietnam and discuss such problems as the disputed Spratley Islands. He also said: "China is ready to join efforts with Southeast Asian countries to develop (the Spratley) Islands while putting aside for the time being the question of sovereignty."

The Chinese premier, who arrived Saturday for talks with his Singapore counterpart, met Sunday with Mr. Lee's first deputy and successor designate Goh Chok Tong and also toured Singapore. He was to leave Monday for Bangkok.

Departs for Bangkok 13 Aug

BK1308025490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0229 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Singapore, Aug 13 (AFP)—Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng left here Monday for Bangkok after a weekend visit aimed at paving the way for a normalization of relations with Singapore.

A joint press statement issued at the end of the visit said the two sides agreed to conclude negotiations on the establishment of diplomatic relations "as expeditiously as possible." Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew accepted an invitation to pay an official goodwill visit to China this year, the statement said. It gave no date for the trip.

The Chinese premier's talks with Mr. Lee, First Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong—who is to take over the premiership in November—and other top officials here also focused on efforts to resolve the Cambodian conflict. It was the first top-level visit to Singapore by a Chinese leader since 1981.

China and Singapore, which have long had close trade and other links, are expected to establish full diplomatic relations later this year.

The joint statement said the talks here included an in-depth exchange of views on the development of bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues of common concern, in which the two sides "found many common points of view." They agreed that contacts and exchanges of visits were vital to the development of relations and cooperation, the statement said.

Singapore President Wee Kim Wee accepted an invitation from his Chinese counterpart, President Yang Shangkun, to visit China at his convenience.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Regime Reportedly Welcomes UN Role

BK1308024990 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Aug 90 p 2

[Text] The Phnom Penh government has for the first time spelled out its willingness to accept a United Nations supervised peace-keeping operation inside Cambodia, according to a document obtained by THE NATION yesterday.

The record of an informal meeting between [Cambodian] Vice Foreign Minister Sok An and two of Prime Minister [PM] Chatchai Chunhawan's advisers, Phansak Winyarat and Kraisak Chunhawan, says that the Phnom Penh government welcomes a UN role in the verification of the withdrawal of all foreign forces and in supervision of a ceasefire, cessation of external military assistance and in monitoring free elections. The document was approved by Prime Minister Hun Sen on Friday after Sok An ended two days of informal discussion with the PM's advisers.

During the Paris conference on Cambodia last year, Phnom Penh refused to accept a monitoring role by UN forces, and urged instead for the conference to set up an international control mechanism independent of the United Nations to verify the Vietnamese troop withdrawal from that country.

Prime Minister Hun Sen has said many times that the UN is biased because it recognises the government resistance coalition, which comprises the Khmer Rouge, as the legitimate representative of Cambodia.

Diplomatic sources said that Phnom Penh's new flexibility is in line with the move by the Western countries to withdraw their recognition of the resistance government's UN seat.

Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan was informed of the Phnom Penh decision and will relay the new position to visiting Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng, according to a source.

Hun Sen News Conference in Phnom Penh Reported

BK1108140690 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1115 GMT 11 Aug 90

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Prime Minister Hun Sen has said he thinks it is possible that the United States intends to have direct talks with the Phnom Penh government to put an end to the present conflict in Cambodia.

Addressing Cambodian and foreign pressmen at the National Assembly office on Thursday [9 August], Prime Minister Hun Sen said: "The change in U.S. policy on Cambodia has led to the recent [words indistinct] of the Cambodian issue, while the internal aspect is in the competence of the State of Cambodia which is at present controlling the country. I think that in order to end the present conflict, there will be reasons for the United States to start direct talks with the Phnom Penh government. In view of the suggestions by public opinion, especially the American senators, perhaps [words indistinct] be an opening of negotiations between the United States and Phnom Penh at whatever level it might be, but it is up to the United States to decide because the ball is on their side of the field.

"The U.S. Administration policy", he said, "based on the principles of the withdrawal of foreign troops from Cambodia, prevention of the genocidal Pol Pot clique's return to power, and exercising of the Cambodian people's right to self-determination, conforms with our aspiration."

On the Khmer-American talks, if there would be any such talks, the two sides could discuss, besides the settlement of the Cambodian problem, bilateral and humanitarian issues such as the search for the remains of American servicemen missing in action (MIA) in Cambodia." The State of Cambodia has handed over to the American side the remains of six American servicemen believed to be missing in action in Cambodia, he said.

The Cambodian leader noted that thanks to their efforts and the progress of settling the current conflict in Cambodia, the [words indistinct] is still some discord in the stance of the fives. "Some of them suggested that the [words indistinct] Cambodia should be left to the Cambodians to settle by themselves in exercising their right to self-determination. Others sought to meddle in the internal affairs of Cambodia by attempting to set up a UN administration and to decide certain problems relating to the Cambodian people's right to self-determination. But at any rate, the efforts of the big five have contributed to the settlement of the Cambodian conflict, Prime Minister Hun Sen said.

On the stance of the ASEAN countries confirmed at their recent annual conference in Jakarta, Prime Minister Hun Sen pointed out that ASEAN is running counter to the policy of the United States on Cambodia. The cause is this: It is well known that the tripartite coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea has been bolstered up by the ASEAN countries and the policy shift of the United States would lead to the expulsion of this coalition from the United Nations.

However, Prime Minister Hun Sen expressed some suspicion about the change in U.S. policy, saying that on the one hand the U.S. seeks to prevent the return of the Pol Pot clique to power and on the other, it is continuing to supply aid to the allies of the Pol Pot forces, which could be used against the forces (of the State of Cambodia) which are opposing the recurrence of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. He said that in effect the demand made by the American senators for reexamining the U.S. aid to the noncommunist Khmer factions, is correct, and the United States should go farther, in a resolute and courageous manner, to prevent the recurrence of the genocidal policy.

On the supreme national council [SNC], Hun Sen stressed that the SNC has already been set up in accordance with the joint communique signed in Tokyo, and the problem that remains is the holding of its first session. I have time and again proposed to Samdech Sihanouk to designate his representatives to the SNC so that it may convene its first session. But it is regrettable that the prince has not enough courage to implement the Tokyo joint communique. Now, we wish to see that from now till the opening of the next UN General Assembly session, the SNC could meet. The obstacle to the meeting of the SNC is not coming from our side at all but from the opposition side.

"At the coming session of the UN General Assembly, we could envisage two possibilities: first the supreme national council occupies Cambodia's seat, and secondly, in case the SNC meeting fails to take place, Cambodia's seat is left vacant. But the controversial subject is whether to allow the Polpotists to occupy the UN seat or to expel them from the United Nations, so that this international organization may have a role to play in the settlement of the Cambodian issue. [Words indistinct] Cambodia's seat."

On the present military situation, Prime Minister Hun Sen acknowledged difficulties after the total withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops, but he categorically rejected the opposition factions' claim to great military victories and even to besieging the city of Phnom Penh.

He said that at the beginning, the enemy mobilized their forces in large-scale attacks against the government forces, but now their troops have split in small groups to carry on a guerrilla war. "The biggest" exploit "of the Khmer opposition factions had been harassing and killing innocent people", Prime Minister Hun Sen stressed.

Radio Welcomes Result of SRV-U.S. Talks

BK1208095690 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Station commentary: "A Welcome Step Forward"]

[Text] On 6 August in New York, Comrade Trinh Xuan Lang, Vietnamese ambassador to the United Nations, and Kenneth Quinn, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Asia and Pacific Affairs, held official talks for three and a half hours. This is the first meeting between the representatives of the two countries since 1975.

The discussion focused on essential aspects of a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem. Although the two sides did not reach a complete agreement, the meeting provided an opportunity for Vietnam and the United States to gain a clearer understanding of their respective stances regarding the Cambodian problem, in particular to become aware of the issues of safeguarding the right to self-determination of the Cambodian people via free and fair elections, the restoration of peace, the prevention of the Khmer Rouge's return to power in Cambodia, the structure of an administering authority in the country during the transitional period, and the role of the United Nations, as well as the international guarantee of Cambodia's neutrality in the future.

Vietnam and the United States shared the idea that the Cambodian problem should be settled politically and that the Khmer Rouge should be prevented from returning to power in Cambodia at all costs.

As Comrade Trinh Xuan Lang pointed out after the meeting, the discussion was of great interest. It enhanced the mutual understanding between Vietnam and the

United States on various issues raised at the talks. This is a good beginning which the Vietnamese side believes should be preserved and encouraged.

Although the Vietnamese-U.S. talks have not yet achieved anything of outstanding significance regarding the international aspect of the Cambodian problem, the Cambodian people are very pleased to welcome the meeting. Everyone knows that during the past two decades, the people have continued to subsist within the flame of a protracted war. As such, they want nothing but peace. They always welcome efforts by countries that have the goodwill to help settle the Cambodian problem, specifically its international aspect.

When a solution to the international aspect of the Cambodian problem is making progress, the other Cambodian party should show its sincerity by concretely implementing the formula agreed upon in Tokyo to quickly resolve the internal aspect of the problem with a view toward achieving a common settlement.

The Cambodian people have clearly seen that major countries and the international community have used their influence to exhort those who are obstinate to join in a political settlement of the Cambodian problem.

Chea Sim Opens 4th National Council Congress

BK1108133190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] The Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense's [KUFNCD] fourth National Council held a grand ceremony to open its fourth congress at the National Assembly on the morning of 11 August.

Present at the congress presidium were Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee, chairman of the Council of State, and chairman of the Honorary Presidium of the KUFNCD National Council; Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly and of the KUFNCD National Council; Comrade Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and of the KUFNCD National Council; Comrade Mat Ly, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the National Assembly, and member of the KUFNCD National Council's Honorary Presidium; and Superior Bonze Tep Vong, vice chairman of the KUFNCD National Council. Attending the congress were members of the KUFNCD National Council, members of the provincial and municipal front committees throughout the country, and many representatives of the Armed Forces, buddhist monks, intellectuals, and ethnic nationalities.

After the national anthem and paying homage to the souls of the dead, Comrade Chairman Chea Sim gave the following speech:

[Begin Chea Sim recording] Our congress is held at a time when our entire party, all our people, and all our Armed Forces are welcoming and acclaiming the brilliant results of the party Central Committee's 11th session and the first National Assembly's 19th session. Their results are linked closely to the resounding victories won on the military, political, and diplomatic fields over the past 10 months after the Vietnamese volunteer troops had returned home.

The essence and significance of this congress are to examine, discuss, and evaluate the common tasks of our front and mass organizations in this new historic phase. This is the phase in which Cambodia's own forces have been making vigorous efforts in order to take full responsibility for the revolutionary tasks. They have also successfully fulfilled many major tasks in all fields that have profound political significance at home and in the world.

The big victories won in our simultaneous offensives on the construction, defense, political, and diplomatic fronts have created a strategic base for the entire party, all our people, and all our Armed Forces to continue with their struggle toward the final goals, according to the principles and lines blazed by the fifth party congress, Second National Conference of Party Cadres, and party Central Committee's 10th session.

Our state of mastery in assuming responsibility for our country in the past 10 months following the total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops (?will cause) the three enemy groups to accept their bitter defeat in the country's interior.

Our party and government have continued to adhere to our stance to constructively implement the policy to liberalize the economy. This is in conformity with the concrete situation of the motherland and the people's aspirations, and also to strive for more social achievements and [words indistinct] of our State of Cambodia.

On behalf of the congress, I would like to acclaim and highly value the sense of mastery and arduous struggle full of heroic sacrifices of our people, Armed Forces, and cadres under the party leadership who, by harmoniously linking the battlefield with the rear, have jointly scored splendid achievements in all fields.

Dear participants: Due to the support, assistance, and encouragement given to them by a number of international reactionary circles, the enemies have not abandoned their strategic scheme to invade, occupy, and topple our State of Cambodia. At present, they are carrying on vigorous offensives against us on all fronts and by all means, militarily, politically, diplomatically, economically, and ideologically. They regard 1990, particularly the current rainy season, as a time to go all out in executing their adventurous maneuvers to create two administrative zones and two state authorities. This will be used as a springboard in their attempt to topple our new regime, or at least to seize an advantage on the battlefield as a bargaining chip at the negotiating table.

However, our people have become well aware of the true nature of the enemies of all stripes and the danger of the genocidal Pol Pot regime's return to power. So far, after seeing the brilliant victories won by our Armed Forces, our masses and people have become even more confident in the efficiency and mastery of our army and security forces in preventing the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. At the same time, our people are happily striving to turn our slogan—everything for serving the battlefield—into actual deeds throughout the country. This has reflected our firm unity around the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP]. Moreover, our people are happy, realizing that our party and government have adopted a lofty stance of responsibility for the destiny of our motherland and people by appropriately responding to the people's desire for peace, displaying their sincere goodwill, and making courageous concessions with the aim of seeking a political solution conducive to ending the bloodshed and bringing about a genuine national reconciliation.

The outcome of the bilateral meeting held between Chairman of the Council of Ministers Comrade Hun Sen and Samdech Sihanouk in Tokyo in June 1990 is another victory of the goodwill strength of our government, which continues to desire an end to the misery and suffering of our people. This is also a victory of the strength of unity of our entire people and Armed Forces around our KPRP which always holds aloft the banner of independence, peace, and national reconciliation.

The Cambodians would like to express profound gratitude to the peace and justice-loving world community for accepting the reality in Cambodia and for contributing to opposing the genocidal Pol Pot regime's return to Cambodia. Cambodians have always displayed their goodwill in quickly achieving a reasonable and genuinely fair solution on the basis of respect for their right to self-determination. The government of the State of Cambodia, the legitimate representative of the Cambodian people, has always displayed its goodwill in cooperating with the parties and countries concerned in seeking a genuine and lasting peace for the Cambodian motherland which has been ruined due to the chronic war caused by the other side, whose core is the Pol Pot-Khmer Rouge group.

The new stance adopted by the U.S. Government, in ending the recognition of the tripartite coalition's seat at the United Nations and beginning talks with Vietnam to help search for a solution to the Cambodian problem on the basis of preventing the genocidal Pol Pot regime's return to power, is clear proof of the bitter defeat suffered by the genocidal Pol Pot clique and its allies. Over the past 11 years, the genocidal Pol Pot clique and its allies have resorted to all kinds of excuses to sabotage the negotiation and prolong the war of bloodshed against Cambodians so they could seize the chance to return to power. The genocidal Pol Pot clique and its allies have never acknowledged their genocidal acts, destruction, or violations of human rights. They have never regretted their insane acts. For this reason, more and more peace- and justice-loving international public opinion, political figures, members of the parliaments and senate, statesmen, governments, journalists, intellectual circles, and religious circles have increasingly demanded that the genocidal clique be tried at the International Tribunal. They have also called for aid suspension to the clique to prevent them from continuing their massacre against innocent Cambodian people.

These significant changes, which are becoming the international trend, will certainly isolate the tripartite gang more, particularly the Pol Pot-Khmer Rouge group, in all international forums. From now on, they can never reverse the truth and reality in Cambodia. Their crimes committed against Cambodians during their rule and their recent crimes still remain bitter lessons which are unforgettable to Cambodians and the international community who are demanding their expulsion from the United Nations.

Dear participants: From the beginning of the year to date, with the support and assistance of the party committees and state authorities at all levels, our front organizations throughout the country have carried out activities and have made vigorous efforts, thus bringing about the concrete movement linking the battlefield with the rear. This is proved by the establishment of the committees for battlefield support, the forging of friendship alliance with army units on the battlefield, and the increasing state of mastery of our village and commune militia units in their attack against the enemies and in local defense work. The strength of our great national union has been firmly consolidated, and our international solidarity has broadened.

At the same time, our policies on religion, nationalities, and intellectuals have been attentively implemented. Voluntary participation in building schools, hospitals, roads, and bridges has increased much more than in the past year. Compatriots living abroad have turned their attention toward the motherland. In tandem with the return of more misled persons, refugees in Thailand have been returning to the great family of our national society. The movement of women, youths, and children in contribution to the cause of national defense and construction are in full swing. All these are the major achievements of the front and the three mass organizations in the first half of 1990.

The KUFNCD National Council highly values these praiseworthy, splendid results and expresses its deep thanks to the struggle and efforts made by front cadres and the mass organizations at all levels throughout the country. Obviously, all these results constitute an important part in the cause of national construction and defense.

Our congress today will focus on summing up the strong and weak points of our past activities as an aid in directing our work targets for the second half of the year and the coming years.

Based on this view and under the beacon of the resolutions of the party Central Committee's 11th session, members of our congress have the noble duty of actively contributing to the success of our congress. They are doing this by jointly discussing the important points that are the keys and the (?factors) for stimulating the activities of our front organizations and mass organizations throughout the country even more vigorously and effectively in this important new phase when all of us are (?striving to) implement our tasks in line with the slogans: Everything for serving the battlefield; Everything for enhancing the people's confidence in our new regime.

With firm conviction in the strength of its collective intellectual wisdom, I wish the congress success and would like to thank all national and international distinguished guests for their presence. I now declare the fourth KUFNCD congress open. [end Chea Sim recording] [applause]

The ceremony proceeded in a joyous atmosphere of unity, friendship, and lofty sense of responsibility.

VOK Assesses Prospects of U.S.-SRV Talks

BK1108102390 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Political commentary: "Around the U.S.-Vietnamese Talks on Peace in Cambodia"]

[Text] When the U.S. Secretary of States James Baker announced direct talks with Vietnam on peace in Cambodia, he said the United States also no longer supports the tripartite coalition government's occupation of the Cambodian seat in the United Nations.

James Baker's statement, which requires that the tripartite coalition government vacate Cambodia's UN seat, has been strongly criticized and opposed by ASEAN and Australia, all pioneers of the restoration of peace in Cambodia. This opposition means the new U.S. policy may have bad consequences on a solution to the Cambodian problem. In other words, it would deviate from the common goal adhered to by all countries in the search for peace in Cambodia. This could send Vietnam the wrong signal that the United States is willing to soften its stance toward Vietnam though Vietnam have not really reciprocated on the Cambodian issue. Furthermore, the U.S. policy shift has provided Vietnam with all the propaganda benefits even before the results of the talks are known. However, that the U.S. quickly held the talks last Monday preempted Vietnam from benefiting from this propaganda.

In Cambodia, the Heng Samrin regime's propaganda machine has made the most out of the U.S. policy shift statement, concentrating on the point that the U.S. no longer supports the tripartite coalition government occupation of Cambodia's UN seat. We, therefore, have to clarify this point.

Attempts to expell the tripartite Cambodian Government or any government from their seats in the United Nations cannot succeed. According to the UN Charter, such an attempt should be supported by two-thirds of the votes; in other words, two-thirds of all the United Nations member countries will have to vote in favor of the move before a member can be expelled from its seat. According to experts who have ample experience in the United Nations, the process of gathering two-thirds of the votes at the UN for such a move cannot be achieved. The most important factor in this is that small and medium countries, which form the majority of voices in the United Nations, have a tendency to reject any attempt to expel a member from the organization. This tendency stems from a fear that they themselves may be expelled due the fact that [words indistinct] government control these countries. Therefore, if this happens, Cambodia's seat in the U.N. will only be occupied by the tripartite coalition government or the supreme national council following a political agreement among Cambodian parties for an independent Cambodia.

In our view, the Heng Samrin regime [words indistinct] gain from propaganda benefit. The time is not right for propagandizing to dupe Cambodians. This should be the time for adhering to the truth and being realistic in restoring peace to Cambodia. In fact, the solution to the Cambodian problem in connection with the new U.S. policy rests on the Vietnamese-U.S. talks. These talks can only lead to a solution if Vietnam is sincere in solving the Cambodian problem.

If Vietnam continues to cheat, as it has done to the United States and other countries in the Indochinese war, efforts to solve the Cambodian problem will fail again. For Cambodians, who most urgently need a just solution for Cambodia, [words indistinct] a solution which would ensure 100 percent independence for Cambodia, sovereignty, and full territorial integrity, even if the solution comes out of the U.S.-Vietnamese talks or other negotiations. We are waiting for the outcome of the talks. If they are not fruitful, the United States will certainly cooperate with the international community to liberate Cambodia from Vietnam's aggression. To do this one must, continue supporting the Cambodian resistance movement and pressuring Vietnam. Therefore, direct talks between the United States and Vietnam on peace in Cambodia constitutes the final negotiation with them to pressure them to show their real intention on the Cambodian issue. Vietnam has to respond. The Cambodian people and the world are waiting for Vietnam's response.

Sihanouk Denies Violating Tokyo Communique

BK1308122790 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 1100 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk has said that he did not violate any point in the Tokyo joint communique that he signed along with Hun Sen of the Heng Samrin regime on 5 June 1990. The prince said that the party of

the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC] and the National Army of Independent Kampuchea [ANKI] have already designated their representatives to the Cambodian supreme national council [SNC].

Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk added that the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF], which is led by His Excellency Son Sann, has decided to leave the seats for the Khmer Rouge side vacant so that the Khmer Rouge may join in the SNC. The prince said that the KPNLF has sent a draft plan to FUNCINPEC urging the latter to agree to respect the Khmer Rouge's rights.

Earlier, FUNCINPEC solemnly declared that it would send three representatives to the SNC and said that it was in fact quite necessary to leave two seats for participation by the Khmer Rouge party. The prince said that FUNCINPEC would not change its stance that there should be only two representatives in the SNC.

VONADK Warns Against SRV's 'Maneuvers'

BK0708053590 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Station commentary: "Avoiding and Thwarting the Hanoi Aggressors' Tricky and Deceitful Propaganda on Vietnam Wanting Cambodia To Become a Neutral Country and Elections To Be Organized Under International Supervision, and So On"]

[Text] Nguyen Co Thach, the Hanoi authorities' deceiving propaganda machine, has recently announced that Vietnam wants Cambodia to become a neutral country and elections there to be organized under international supervision.

This is a stinking and rotten announcement aimed at fooling and deceiving people in an extremely base way. The Hanoi enemy aggressors want to circumvent world pressure and condemnation from all quarters strongly urging them to accept responsibility for resolving their war of aggression in Cambodia via a comprehensive political solution and allowing an enhanced UN role.

By all means, the Hanoi authorities can neither trick nor dupe the people because:

1. The Vietnamese enemies' invading forces are made up of native Vietnamese, disguised Vietnamese, and hidden Vietnamese, as well as over 1 million Vietnamese settlers committing aggression against and annexing Cambodia.
2. The Vietnamese enemies have swallowed a big part of Cambodian territory by altering Cambodia's borders in Kampot and Takeo up to Mondolkiri and Ratanakiri Provinces.
3. There are countless treaties and agreements between the Vietnamese and the Phnom Penh puppets who have sold off the nation, country, and people to the annexationist Vietnamese aggressors, let alone treaties and agreements between the puppets and the Soviet Union's Warsaw Pact.
4. The lackey regime, which the Vietnamese have installed for their war of aggression and their communist Indochinese Federation Strategy, remains intact.

In such a situation, how can Cambodia become neutral? How can elections under international supervision be organized?

Elections organized by the puppet regime and in a Cambodia where the Vietnamese aggressor forces and settlers are everywhere will be fraudulent at any rate. This will be done to legitimize the Vietnamese lackey regime and its occupation of Cambodia and the Vietnamese communist Indochinese Federation Strategy.

Therefore, in spite of the enemy Nguyen Co Thach's clamour and fallacious farce, the Cambodian National Resistance Forces and the entire Cambodian people, along with countries and people the world over, will certainly not allow themselves to be deceived by the Hanoi authorities' false maneuvers. No matter what happens, they will continue to put stronger pressure on the Vietnamese un il they they accept genuine, effective supervision and control by a UN peacekeeping force over the withdrawal of all their aggressor forces from Cambodia and until Cambodians are allowed to enjoy their rights to self-determination through free, correct, and fair elections under strict United Nations supervision.

VONADK Reports 750 Vietnamese Troops Sent

BK1308023090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] The following is a report on the Hanoi enemy aggressors' shipment of 750 more fresh Vietnamese troops to Cambodia:

1. On 5 August, the Hanoi enemy aggressors sent 20 trucks transporting some 600 fresh Vietnamese troops, wearing the uniforms of the puppet police forces known as A-3, along with four tanks and four 105-mm artillery pieces from Vietnam to Cambodia. The troops were brought along Route 16 via Ton Hon village in Kompong Trach District of Kampot Province. Ten of the trucks and two tanks, together with two 105-mm artillery pieces, were dropped in Kampot provincial town, while the remaining were sent toward the Chakrei Ting cement factory [some 15 km away from the provincial town].
2. On 9 August, the Hanoi enemy aggressors shipped another contingent of 150 Vietnamese troops dressed in puppet army uniforms to Cambodia. These Vietnamese soldiers were trucked along Route 2 via Phnum Den to Phnom Penh City. They were then sent west along Route 5 to Peam commune in Kompong Tralach District of Kompong Chhnang Province.

Indonesia

Government Joins UN Trade Embargo Against Iraq

BK1008105690 Hong Kong AFP in English
1040 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 10 (AFP)—Indonesia Friday announced that it has stopped all trade with Iraq to comply with a United Nations resolution calling for an economic embargo against Baghdad for its invasion of Kuwait. The official ANTARA news agency quoted Mines and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita as saying that Indonesia was ceasing all trade with Iraq, including oil imports, pending a settlement of the conflict in the Gulf.

The U.N. Security Council Monday called for an economic embargo of Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait, suspending all trade and financial dealings with Baghdad as a punishment for the invasion of the wealthy little emirate.

"As member, Indonesia has to comply with the U.N. resolution although for this Indonesia has to bear the risk," the minister said.

Indonesia has been purchasing Iraqi crude oil at a rate of 30,000 barrels a day under a counter-purchase deal in exchange for Indonesian commodities, mainly textile.

All trade agreements with Iraq had been temporarily suspended, Mr. Ginanjar said.

Indonesia, a net oil exporting country, imports some 85,000 barrels per day of crude which it uses as feedstock for certain petrol products. Iran and Saudi Arabia also supply Indonesia.

Mr. Ginanjar said Indonesia would have to look to other markets to replace the Iraqi crude, but he did not give further details.

Indonesia, which had close relations with both Iraq and Kuwait, stopped short of condemning Baghdad for the invasion, stating that it regretted the conflict and urging both sides to return to the negotiating table.

Alatas Says Iraq Embargo for 'Time Being'

BK1108074790 Jakarta ANTARA in English
0634 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Tampaksiring, Bali, Aug 11 (OANA/ANTARA)—Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has said that Indonesia for the time being would impose an economic sanction or embargo on Iraq for its recent invasion of Kuwait. Minister Ali Alatas made the statement at the presidential palace here Friday afternoon in the course of his visit to Bali accompanying Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and party.

As we all know, the United Nations Security Council, with 13 pros, two abstained, and no cons, passed resolution 661, Alatas said. For this reason, he added, Indonesia as member of the world body, was obliged to abide by the resolution on an economic sanction or embargo on Iraq's exports and imports. However, exceptions are given under circumstances, Alatas told Indonesian and Chinese journalists following a lunch here.

With regard to Indonesia's next step forward toward an economic embargo on Iraq, Alatas said Indonesia's economic ministers and the foreign office were still drawing up a list of products and commodities having to do with the economic relations between Indonesia and Iraq. Alatas, however, reminded that although Indonesia is for the time being imposing an economic embargo on Iraq, the Iraq-Kuwait conflict was expected to be settled and normal economic relations could be restored.

Alatas also expressed the Indonesian Government's deep concern over the situation in the Gulf as the result of the Iraqi invasion of its tiny oil-rich neighbour.

Alatas on PRC Support for Cambodian Faction

BK1108113690 Jakarta ANTARA in English
0619 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Tampaksiring (Bali), Aug 11 (OANA/ANTARA)—Foreign Minister Ali Alatas reaffirmed here Friday that the People's Republic of China (PRC) would not support one of the conflicting factions in Cambodia if they wanted to seek a solution to the Cambodian issue through military means.

In a press briefing at the Tampaksiring presidential retreat palace after accompanying his Chinese counterpart to visit several tourist objects in Bali, Minister Alatas further said that Minister Qian Qichen had given his assurance that the PRC would not support a military solution to the Cambodian problem. China has reaffirmed its position to seek a political and negotiated solution to the Cambodian issue, Minister Alatas asserted.

Answering a question on whether such a position would bring a consequence that China would stop its arms supply to the Khmer Rouge, Alatas just said that the Chinese position was clear. I think the PRC would be prepared to stop its arms supply to Cambodia if other countries would do so, because China is not the only country which supplies armaments to the one of the conflicting factions in Cambodia, he added. In this connection, he went on, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen had expressed his readiness to meet with the three Cambodian factions which would meet in Beijing.

During the Beijing meeting, he said, Minister Qian Qichen would try to convince the three Cambodian factions that they should support an agreement of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council on the setting up of a supreme national council (SNC) in Cambodia.

Minister Alatas further said that there was a similar position between ASEAN and the PRC on the Cambodian issue.

Another encouraging development in an effort to seek a comprehensive solution to the Cambodian problem was an agreement achieved during a recent meeting of the UN permanent five, of its members is the PRC, in Paris. During the Paris meeting, Alatas said, the UN five permanent—Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States—unanimously agreed on two working papers concerning temporary administration in Cambodia, including the setting up of a supreme national council (SNC), and military arrangements in Cambodia. He also said that China had always supported Indonesia as co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC) to seek a comprehensive solution to the Cambodian issue.

However, it is the four conflicting factions in Cambodia themselves which will be able to find the best solution, he said adding that China would support as well the initiative of Indonesia as the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC) to bring the four conflicting factions to the negotiation table in Jakarta. Through such a policy, it is expected that a supreme national council (SNC) which will be able to channel the aspirations of all Cambodians can be soon set up, he said. It is the SNC hat should occupy the UN seat on behalf of the Cambodian people, he said.

Minister Alatas further said the next step following the resumption of diplomatic relations would be the opening of the Indonesian Embassy in Beijing and vice versa. Asked when it would be, he explained that it only depends on physical preparations. The Chinese Government has already shown us a building which we could use temporarily as our embassy, as well as a plot of land where we could build our permanent embassy, he said. Asked about a Chinese Embassy in Jakarta, he said Indonesia will reciprocrate the Chinese Government's steps.

The two sides are making preparations for the sending of advanced teams to discuss the follow-up of the resumption of diplomatic relations. Indonesia is ready to dispatch its team to Beijing early in September, Alatas said.

PRC Reportedly Rejects Security Forum Proposal

BK1108041690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0322 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 11 (AFP)—Chinese Premier Li Peng has rejected proposals for a security consultation forum in Asia, Indonesia's official ANTARA NEWS AGENCY said Saturday.

Mr. Li said in an interview with a group of Indonesian journalists that the security situation in Asia did not merit such a forum, modelled on the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), ANTARA said. Asia did not face two power blocs like in Europe, Mr. Li said, adding however that it did have the Cambodian conflict and the problem of a divided Korean peninsula.

Australia last month proposed the creation of a CSCE-model forum for Asia to address and resolve regional security problems. Canada has also put forward a similar idea for Asia-Pacific countries.

The two proposals were given a cool reception by members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) which preferred to work on its own concept for a "zone of peace, freedom and neutrality" for the region. The association groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Mr. Li said China in principle supported the idea of an Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) as a forum of consultation, but stressed that it must be of mutual benefit to all participants. The second APEC meeting in Singapore last month agreed to invite China, Hong Kong and Taiwan to join, not as governments but as economic entities. APEC now includes the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea and the six ASEAN states.

Mr. Li was speaking Friday on the holiday island of Bali, where he had been resting for the past two days after heavy activities since his arrival in Jakarta Monday, including witnessing the reopening of diplomatic ties with Indonesia on Wednesday.

He flew to Singapore on Saturday morning to discuss establishing ties with the island republic, which officials from both countries said was expected to occur before the end of the year.

Mr. Li reiterated that China would not use ethnic Chinese in Indonesia to serve its interests and would not interfere if they had problems in this country, a pledge he also made during talks with President Suharto Tuesday. "They are Indonesian citizens, whatever they do is the affair of the Indonesian Government," ANTARA quoted him as saying.

He added that many descendants of Chinese immigrants in Asia had succeeded in becoming leaders in their adoptive countries, citing the case of Philippine President Corazon Aquino.

Radio Reports Li Peng's Departure 11 Aug

BK1108091290 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] PRC Prime Minister Li Peng, Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, and Foreign Trade and Economic Relations Minister Zhen Toubin left Indonesia this morning via Ngurah Rai International Airport, Denpasar, Bali. The delegation left for Singapore on a China Airline's Boeing 707 aircraft. The state guests were seen off by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, the Bali governor, the 9th Army Regional Commander and the Indonesian

Chamber of Trade and Commerce chairman, Sukamdani Gitarsojono. The state guests, who had been in Indonesia since 9 August [as heard], held official talks with President Suharto on normalizing diplomatic relations between the two countries, which had been frozen for 23 years. [Words indistinct].

After sending off the state guests at Ngurah Rai Airport, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas told journalists that as a follow-up action to the normalization of diplomatic relations, the two countries will establish embassies in each other's countries. In addition to this, with the signing of trade agreements, it is hoped that more Indonesian enterpreneurs will (?compete) with their Chinese counterparts. [passage indistinct]

The chairman of the Indonesian Chamber of Trade and Commerce said Indonesian enterpreneurs should take full advantage of the trade agreements signed with China. It is hoped that major industrialists will assist their small-scale counterparts, particularly in the areas of finance and marketing. Small-scale enterpreneurs are only concerned with processing products.

In accordance with the government's effort to increase and smooth the flow of trade to the PRC, the small-scale industrialists were urged to increase their non-gas exports to that country.

Philippines

Reportage on Middle East Situation Continues

Manila To Comply With Sanctions

HK0908032990 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 9 Aug 90 pp 1, 8

[By Marites Paez, Tress Reyes, and Booma Cruz]

[Text] The Philippines decided yesterday to stop buying oil from Iraq and Kuwait, where Iraq installed a governmnet, to conform with the United Nations Security Council's stand imposing trade sanctions on Iraq for invading Kuwait on Aug. 2, said the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, who briefed the Cabinet yesterday on the Middle East Crisis, told Palace and diplomatic reporters that the Philippines would seek other sources of oil, including ASEAN countries Malaysia, Brunei and Indonesia. He said the Philippine National Oil Company [PNOC] has been in touch with China and would also tap Latin American countries.

President Aquino would meet Congress leaders to arrive at a "unified response" to the projected rise in oil prices brought by the Iraq-Kuwait conflict, said Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig last night. Iraq and Kuwait together produce 4.7 million barrels of oil daily, accounting for about 20% of the production of the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries and 9% of total world production. The Philippines imported about 20% of its oil requirements from the two countries in the first six months of this year.

Macaraig said the Government has firmed up a new contract with Iran for the supply of 20,000 barrels per day. Iran would also supply 720,000 barrels of crude oil that had been due to be imported from Kuwait this month.

Manglapus said the Philippine oil supply should last until September although Macaraig said the suply was good for more than 70 days. Macaraig said the Government would embark on an energy-saving program and will begin stockpiling on oil for up to year-end.

Manglapus said the ASEAN Petroleum Agreement provided that the oil-producing ASEAN members should share their supply with the three non-oil producing ASEAN countries—the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand—in times of shortage.

Macaraig noted that oil prices in the world market had been climbing fast because many countries were simultaneously seeking alternative oil sources. [passage omitted]

Mangalpus brushed aside published observations of Western diplomats that the ongoing crisis strengthened the Philippines' negotiating stance in the coming bases talks since it stressed the strategic importance of the bases to the United States. He said that as far as he knew, the United States had not asked the Philippines to use its bases here for operations in the Middle East.

Oil Import Contract With Iran

HK0908032190 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 9 Aug 90 pp 1, 15

[By Fred M. Lobo]

[Excerpts] President Aquino and the Cabinet announced last night that the government has firmed up a contract with Iran for the supply of 20,000 barrels of crude oil. They added that the government also started negotiations with other possible sources to avert an oil shortage and very high price increases in the wake of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

The President said the move is aimed at stockpiling oil inventories up to Dec. 31 as crude oil prices climbed from $15 per barrel last July to $25 as of yesterday. The President and the Cabinet added that the move will be boosted by the promotion and implementation of energy conservation measures although the country has still enough oil supply for more than 70 days. [passage omitted]

Mrs. Aquino said after meeting the Cabinet and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) board late last night that the government has taken steps to minimize the adverse effects of the Persian Gulf problem. She said a new contract was forged with Iran for a 20,000-barrel crude oil supply per day and the replacement of oil left from Kuwait for this month of 720,000 barrels from Iran.

The President said the government made the move as world oil prices have been climbing fast with many countries looking for alternative crude oil sources. She said Dubai oil has spiralled to $25 per barrel, up by 67 percent over last July's price average of $15 per barrel.

The President said the transaction involved about one-fifth of the country's oil requirement, adding that during the first six months of this year, crude oil from Iraq and Kuwait accounted for 20 percent of the national supply. Iraq and Kuwait produce 4.7 million barrels of oil a day equivalent to 20 percent of production by the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) and nine percent of world oil production.

The President added that the Kuwait-Iraq crisis will have adverse effects on the country. She said she will meet with Congress leaders on the problem. [passage omitted]

President Voices Concerns

HK1108041190 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Iraqi troops have killed three Filipinos and raped three others. The report came from Labor Secretary Ruben Torres who is now in Saudi Arabia. The president voiced concerns over the incidents. The president's reaction was conveyed to newsmen by Presidential Spokesman Adolf Azcuna:

[Begin Azcuna recording in English] This report just came in from Secretary Torres who said that he heard it from some Filipino workers who are now in our embassy in Baghdad. [end recording]

Spokesman Azcuna said meantime that the Aquino government has taken notice of the predicament of Filipino evacuees from Kuwait. Azcuna said the president has made the appropriate directive to the Central Bank.

[Begin Azcuna recording in English] I have directed the monetary authorities to look into ways addressing this particular problem and difficulty and seeing if we could exchange their currencies up to a certain amount. [end recording]

'Emergency Evacuation Plan' Noted

BK1208162490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1320 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Manila, Aug 12 (AFP)—The Philippine Government is to evacuate tens of thousands of its nationals from Iraqi-occupied Kuwait with Baghdad's approval, officials said here Sunday. The Iraqi ambassador to the Philippines, 'Ali Sumaydah, informed Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs Manuel Yan on Saturday that Filipino workers could leave Kuwait and Iraq except those employed by the Iraqi Government, the official PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) reported Sunday.

President Corazon Aquino said in a statement that Labor Secretary Ruben Torres, currently in Saudi Arabia, has informed her that the Philippine Embassy in Riyadh would implement an "emergency evacuation plan." Mr. Torres has recommended that "all Filipino workers still in Kuwait must be brought back to the Philippines," she added.

She did not say how the estimated 60,000 Filipino workers would be evacuated. Officials here have previously balked at the idea of repatriating them all by plane, which they said would take 167 flights at the cost of 41 million dollars.

Mrs. Aquino said that as a United Nations member, Manila "joins the U.N. Security Council" in its call for a worldwide trade, financial and arms embargo against Iraq, but did not say which sanctions Manila would impose on Baghdad which supplies part of its oil imports.

There are about half a million Filipino workers in the Middle East, contributing one billion dollars a year to the Philippine economy. About 60,000 are in Kuwait and 5,000 in Iraq, according to official figures.

Mrs. Aquino also advised dependents of Filipino workers in the eastern region of Saudi Arabia to "move to safer areas within the kingdom", and said those leaving Kuwait could do so by way of Jordan or Turkey. Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said Sunday that Amman has assured Manila that Filipinos leaving Iraq would be given safe passage through the kingdom, PNA reported.

Spokesmen for the Philippine Foreign Department and the Iraqi mission here were unavailable for comment Sunday.

Ninety Filipino workers arrived here Sunday from Kuwait via Saudi Arabia, journalists at Manila airport said. Fewer than a thousand have been able to return to the Philippines since the Iraqi invasion on August 2. The Philippine leader, who has not condemned the Iraqi invasion, noted the "intense anger all over the world of the Iraqi invasion of its neighbor Kuwait, especially those countries which are campaigning for world peace."

Kuwait provided 13 per cent of the Philippines' oil imports last year while Iraq provided five per cent, official figures show.

Mrs. Aquino denied published reports here that the Philippine Central Bank has banned banks from buying the currencies of Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. She said local banks have been given the freedom to decide on transactions involving these currencies.

She said the government was ready to respond to a possible constriction of oil supply, but added that Manila was ready to cope with the Gulf crisis by tapping other oil-exporting countries. But she said "prudence dictates that we embark on a more serious energy conservation effort."

Crisis 'To Affect' Bases Talks

HK1308113590 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] The current conflict in the Middle East is expected to affect the forthcoming military bases talks between the Philippines and the United States. Jojo Ismael for the details.

[Begin recording] This was the statement made today by Senator Leticia Ramos Shahani, chairperson of the Senate committee on foreign relations, in reaction to a report from Washington last week claiming that the participation of American troops in the Middle East will have a bearing on the coming talks on retention of U.S. military bases in the Philippines.

Shahani said that the United States will definitely need Clark Air Base in the current conflict in the Middle East. She also noted that legislators who strongly support the retention of military bases in the country should now think twice because of the current Middle East crisis. However, she also stressed that should the government choose to extend the lease of the military bases, this is an opportunity for our negotiators to raise the rent for the retention of the bases in the country. [end recording]

Second Round of Talks To Be Held as Planned

HK0908052490 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said that the second round of exploratory talks between the Phlippines and the United States will go ahead next week. He reiterated that even with the Iraq-Kuwait feud, the bases talks will push through. Manglapus also said that if the United States does not plan to retain its military bases here, the talks would focus on their orderly withrawal after 1991.

Stand on Bases Remains Unchanged

HK0908065990 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Secretary Manglapus said that the Philippine stand on the future of the U.S. military bases in the country will not be altered by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. He said that despite the outbreak of war in the Persian Gulf which prompted the U.S. to strengthen its naval forces in the Indian Ocean, the U.S. facilities in the Philippines have to be withdrawn upon termination of the military bases agreement on September 16, 1991.

Secretary Manglapus said that if no agreement is forged between the Philippines and the United States during the next set of talks in late August, arrangements on peaceful withdrawal of the U.S. military forces must begin on January 1991.

Officials Ask Japan To Speed Development Loans

OW1008101690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0946 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Manila, Aug. 10 KYODO—Philippine debt negotiators have urged Japan to hasten the release of Manila's share of 358 million U.S. dollars from the 2 billion-dollar ASEAN-Japan Development Fund to provide money needed to rebuild areas devastated by last month's earthquake, officials said Friday.

Philippine Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao and the central bank governor, Jose Cuisia, requested Japanese officials during their Tokyo trip last week, to also ensure that committed loans and grants are disbursed speedily, the officials said.

On July 27, finance officials said the Philippines would ask Japan for the early disbursement of the 18th yen loan package, up for discussion next year, to augment financing for the rehabilitation of several northern Philippine regions.

The July 16 quake killed at least 1,700 people and injured more than 3,000. In addition, about 1.5 million Filipinos lost either their jobs or their homes. Officials said the Philippine debt panel was putting its reliance on the goodwill of the Japanese Government to disburse the development fund money. The Philippines started negotiating for the funds in 1987.

Tokyo's response has been delayed as it is studying Manila's proposals on terms and conditions from Manila, particularly the interest rate, sources said. Japan is the largest aid donor and creditor of the Philippines, which is one of six members of ASEAN, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

YOU Warns Against Dispersal of Ally's Protest

HK0908095990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 Aug 90

[By Eloi Aquino]

[Text] The Young Officers Union [YOU] today warned soldiers and police, who are in the vicinity of the Eulogio Amang Rodriguez Institute of Science and Technology [EARIST] in Nagtahan, not to interfere in the peaceful protest by students and teachers of the said institute. The YOU said that the protest by the students, teachers, and workers of EARIST, a YOU ally, is a valid and legitimate expression of their right to contest and fight the bad administration by officials, led by a certain Mrs Propeta. The students and teachers, who are under the group, Youth Uprising—Strength of the Filipino Nation, held a strike this morning in protest against graft and oppressive administration by the school authorities.

The YOU spokesman, Captain Carlos Maglalang, dropped a hint, in a letter issued and addressed to the military and police authorities, that hostile action will be carried out in the event a dispersal of the teachers and

students' barricading the EARIST campus is enforced. The YOU said it is the responsibility of every soldier and policeman to ensure peace and order, and not to carry out violent action against protesting citizens. The YOU added that the soldiers' and policemen's role of keeping peace and order will have more meaning if they do not meddle in the peaceful activity by the EARIST students and teachers.

Two Alleged Communist Hitmen Arrested 8 Aug

HK0908033390 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 9 Aug 90 p 7

[By Mike Baluyot]

[Text] Manila policemen yesterday arrested two alleged members of the Alex Boncayao Brigade [ABB], the Communist hit squad, after they botched up an assassination mission. Celestino Abel, 18, and Harris Reyes, 24, said they and two other companions were assigned to kill Pat. Rogelio Paguilagan of the Western Police District (WPD) arson section.

On Tuesday night, the suspects attacked Paguilagan as he waited for a ride near the corner of Escoda and Leon Guinto Sts. in Ermita. One of the suspects fired twice at Paguilagan while Abel tried to grab the policeman's revolver. Paguilagan subdued Abel while the others escaped. Paguilagan was unhurt save for the slight powder burns on his face and neck.

Abel later admitted he was an ABB member and led policemen to their safehouse in Pandacan where Reyes was arrested yesterday. An investigator said the two confessed they were with some 70 others deployed by the New People's Army (NPA) to assassinate policemen in Metro Manila.

Rebels Said To Kill Three in Negros Oriental

HK1008120990 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 10 Aug 90

[From "GMA News" program]

[Text] Three people, including a college dean, were shot and killed by New People's Army rebels in Negros Oriental. First to be executed was Buensuseco Tansinco, dean of the Academic Department of the Central Visayas Polytechnic College in Guinhulngan. The other incident involved the killing of barangay Councilman Crisanto Batangay and his colleague Ricardo Payat. They were riddled with bullets by the rebels for yet undetermined motives.

Davao City Reportedly Fearful of NPA Return

HK1308031690 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 13 Aug 90 p 8

[By Carol Arguillas]

[Text] Davao City—Police Brig. Gen. Antonio Teves, the top-rank police official killed by four members of the Sparrows unit (urban liquidation squad of the New People's Army) Monday noon, was buried Saturday amid questions on whether these urban guerrillas are back in this city.

The Sparrows, which thrived and turned this city into a "laboratory for urban guerrilla warfare" shortly before the Edsa uprising, were driven out of the city about four years ago by the vigilante group, "Alsa Masa." [People's Uprising]

[Metropolitan District Command] Metrodiscom Chief Lt. Col. [Lieutenant Colonel] Franco Calida, "godfather" of the Alsa Masa, dismissed Wednesday the claim of the Edilberto Django Canoy Command (EDCC), the local counterpart of the Manila based Sparrows, that they killed Teves. "There are no strong indications about NPA (ang pumatay)," that it was the NPA who killed, he said, adding that "the (NPA) will declare anything to give them propaganda mileage, to suit their interest." Calida said he would base his findings on the evidences the Metrodiscom had gathered.

But while the public believed the Sparrows killed Teves, "it doesn't necessarily mean they're back in the city. The mass base is still with us," Recom [Regional Command] Chief Brig. Gen.[Brigadier General] Mariano Baccay told THE CHRONICLE.

Calida also said that if the NPA was responsible for the crime, "it doesn't mean they're back." He said these are operatives from the hinterlands or from Davao del Norte who "don't stay here, they just come, attack and flee."

But why Teves?

The EDCC Information Desk, in an unsigned press statement, quoted its spokesman Salvador Magtanggol as saying Teves' position as Recom Deputy Commander for Police Operations and "his role in government counter-insurgency programs made him a target of the revolutionary movement."

The explanation did not sit well with the public, who knew Teves as a born-again Pentecostal whose only public counter-insurgency activity was reading a speech on behalf of Baccay in last year's anniversary of the Alsa Masa.

Along Buhangin, site of Recom's Camp Catitipan and an Alsa Masa stronghold, sack streamers denounced the killing of Teves: "Justice for Gen. Teves," "General Teves, bakit ikaw pa?" [why did it have to be you?]

Calida's answer to the question was simple: "Teves was an easy prey." For years, driving his wife, Lilia, to the Teodoro Palma Gil elementary school and fetching her was part of his weekday routine. And so it was that noon when he and his driver-aide, Pfc, [Private First Class] Peter Evangelista, waited for Lilia to come out of the school, but were instead met with bullets.

Senior officials recalled how they tried to convince Teves to have a retinue of bodyguards and how the police general told them. "Diyos na ang bahala sa akin.' ["God will take care of me"] They quoted the general as saying it would be unfair for the families of his guards. An

official recalled how Teves' driver cautioned him against going out by himself, to which the general answered, "You who have little faith..."

Any determined assassin could have easily killed him, said Calida, adding that even the Alsa Masa could not have prevented the killing because "he made himself vulnerable to the enemy. He exposed himself. There's nothing we can do about that." But to say the Alsa Masa is ineffective in counter-insurgency is another story, Calida said.

"The mass base is still ours. Wala silang mass base dito," [They do not have any mass base here.] Calida said, adding that the NPA's claim in a press statement during the Alsa Masa anniversary last month that they have recovered 37% of "identified unfriendly communities and liberated selected areas in the peripheries of the city" is "nothing but 37% of newspaper space."

Erstwhile Alsa Masa propagandist Jun Porras Pala, the anticommunist radio commentator responsible for the increase in Alsa Masa membership in February-March 1987 through his "harassment for democracy" and "extortion for democracy" campaign, said the Teves killing is "a slap on the Alsa Masa and a slap on Calida." Pala said Teves roamed the city fearlessly because of public assurances that there were no more NPAs in the city.

Thailand

Chatchai Welcomes PRC's Li Peng on Arrival

BK1308140890 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] The PRC prime minister and his wife arrived this morning for an official visit to Thailand as guests of the Thai Government. Prime Minister Li Peng and Mrs. Zhu Lin were greeted at the Air Force Command Airport by Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan and Than Phuying Bunruan Chunhawan. Also present to welcome the guests were members of the diplomatic corps and the Chinese community in Thailand.

During the visit, the Chinese prime minister will hold talks with the Thai leader on bilateral relations and regional issues. He will leave Thailand on 14 August.

Foreign Ministers on Cambodia

BK1308145590 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Ministry Spokesman Somphong Faichampa reported that a meeting was held this afternoon between Foreign Minister and Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila and PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, who is currently visiting Thailand in the company of the Chinese prime minister.

The two ministers exchanged views on the situation in the Middle East. Air Chief Marshal Sitthi thanked China for making facilities at the Chinese Embassy in Kuwait available for Thailand's contact with its embassy there. This has enabled Thailand to arrange timely help for Thai workers in Kuwait. The two countries will continue to cooperate in facilitating the evacuation of Thai workers to Thailand.

The two ministers also exchanged views on the Cambodian issue. China welcomed the ASEAN position and its statement on Cambodia. Both shared the view that the supreme national council must have representatives from all Khmer factions and that free elections should be held in Cambodia. The Chinese foreign minister also reported to Thailand that Indonesia, which is a co-chairman, along with France, of the Paris international conference, agreed to host a meeting of the four Cambodian factions in Jakarta soon. The meeting will be very important vis-a-vis future resolutions from the permanent members of the UN Security Council. Thailand and China shared the view that guidelines adopted by the permanent members of the UN Security Council are most appropriate in seeking a settlement of the Cambodian problem.

Further Reportage on Iraq-Kuwait Situation

Preparations To Evacuate Workers

BK1208153590 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] The Thai Government is preparing to evacuate Thai workers from Kuwait as tensions are growing after the United States and its allies sent warships into the Persian Gulf, Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan told reporters at the Army golf course this afternoon.

[Begin recording] [Chatchai] I have said from the beginning that I was only worried about food supplies. The problem of food supplies is very important and we are trying to send the supplies for them.

[Reporter] Are we going to seek help from other countries?
[Chatchai] We have asked for help from both Iran and from Iraq.

[Reporter] Do you think that the situation now warrants an evacuation of our workers?
[Chatchai] I feel that it is now about time to evacuate them.

[Question and answer indistinct]

[Reporter] Will the Thai Embassy in Kuwait be moved out?
[Chatchai] No, not at this moment, because we still have a lot of Thai people there to look after. [end recording]

Spokesman on Evacuation

BK1208145790 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] A group of 140 Thai workers detained by Iraq has been freed since last night. The Thai Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, already sent its officials to arrange for the quick repatriation of those workers to Thailand via

Jordan. Suwit Yotmani, spokesman attached to the Prime Minister's Office, said this afternoon that the honorary consul of Jordan had given an assurance to provide facilities for Thailand on this matter, while in Thailand the Labor Department and the Foreign Ministry will seek approval from the government to send an aircraft to bring the 140 workers back quickly. The spokesman also said that another group of 20 Thai workers fled from Kuwait across the border to Saudi Arabia. They are waiting at a town for officials from the Thai Embassy in Riyadh to arrange for them to leave for Dhahran, where they are supposed to board a plane for Thailand. The spokesman said that Thai Airways International has three regular flights a week from Dhahran, on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. If there is no problem, it is believed the 20 Thai workers would return to Thailand this coming Wednesday.

Concerning the situation in Saudi Arabia, the spokesman attached to the Prime Minister's Office said that the situation is tense, and the government has already mapped out a plan to evacuate Thai workers from Saudi Arabia if necessary. The evacuation, he said, should be made by sea as there are as many as 100,000 Thai workers in Saudi Arabia. They may also be evacuated by land, passing through Jordan.

Envoy to Saudi Arabia, BBC Help

BK1208131390 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 12 Aug 90 pp 1, 15

[Text] As tension is building around Iraq and Saudi Arabia after reinforcements were sent into the area by the United States and other world powers to blockade Iraq, which refused to back down, the BBC Thai language service announced that it will serve as a medium of contact for Thai workers stranded in those areas of tension, and will keep them informed of any plan for emergency evacuation from those countries. During the late program on Saturday night, BBC correspondent Somchai Suwannaban contacted the Thai ambassador in Saudi Arabia, Likkhasit Pansomchit, asking him what had been done by authorities to help Thai workers stranded in the Middle East.

The ambassador said that, as a first step, the authorities were arranging for facilities at the border between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Embassy officials have already been sent there. The embassy has already reported to the government in Bangkok on the plan and preparations for the evacuation of Thai workers.

Ambassador Likkhasit also said that the situation should not be taken as a serious cause for concern at present. However, the authorities were worried about the safety of Thai workers and a possible shortage of food for them. Thai workers started fleeing Iraq into Saudi Arabia. Twenty of them have arrived in Saudi Arabia since Friday. They met with some problems because of Saudi Arabia's strict visa regulation. The embassy has contacted the Saudi Foreign Ministry since Saturday morning to ask special permission for Thai workers from Iraq and Kuwait to enter Saudi Arabia, on an emergency basis, without visas. The ambassador explained that Thailand asked Saudi Arabia to allow workers into the country without visas, but the workers would then be put together in groups to wait for their departure to Thailand. He said that Saudi Arabia agreed to Thailand's request. The Thai Embassy in Saudi Arabia has been in contact with the embassy in Baghdad on this matter.

Likkasit said that his embassy could only reach the Thai workers in Iraq. Contact with those in Kuwait has been totally cut off. He said that the embassy had been trying all channels to get in touch with Thai workers in Kuwait since the Iraqi invasion on 2 August. The embassy, however, got some news from the Thai Embassy in Baghdad, which also had very little news about Thai workers in Kuwait. According to the report, most of the Thai workers were safe. The embassy also learned that Thai convicts in Kuwait prisons had been freed. Their fate should not be much cause for concern. The biggest problem now is how to evacuate them as all channels of communications are cut off.

The ambassador said that the only option is to contact the Iraqi Embassy in Bangkok, asking it to contact Kuwait to get the Thai workers to Saudi Arabia. He said that contacts had been made by telephone and that the Iraqi Embassy in Thailand had agreed to arrange it.

"There is now enough food for the workers in Kuwait, but later there will be a shortage," Likkhasit said, adding that he had been told so by those who had just arrived in Saudi Arabia. He said that four embassy officials had been sent to the border points with Kuwait. The next step in the plan is to evacuate workers from both countries via Jeddah and the Red Sea. The Thai Government will send vessels to take them home. The embassy has been working with the government on the plan and the costs. There is also a program to boost the morale of Thai workers stranded in both countries. For example, the embassy already requested employers to give passports to workers so that they would be ready for immediate evacuation.

The Thai ambassador to Saudi Arabia issued a message through the BBC service to Thai workers in Iraq and Kuwait telling them that they can contact the Thai Embassy in Saudi Arabia at any time by telephone at the numbers 4881174 and 4881175.

The ambassador said that the situation at the Saudi-Kuwait border was rather tense. Yet from evaluation, the situation was still safe and there should be no alarm over the crisis. There is still enough time to think and to plan for ways out.

He said: "The Thai Government, through the prime minister and the foreign minister, has instructed the embassy to be on the alert to provide security for Thai workers in the Middle East, especially those in Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Kuwait. We have dispatched officials to the border to facilitate evacuation of Thai workers

from Kuwait. As of Saturday evening, 10 workers have already arrived from Kuwait. They have been taken care of by the embassy.

"There is a little difficulty anyway due to the present state of relations between Thailand and Saudi Arabia—Saudi Arabia has suspended visa issuance for Thai nationals since 2 February, after the murder of Saudi diplomats in Bangkok. Anyway, the Thai Government had asked Saudi Arabia for relaxation of the visa restriction, considering the present state of emergency, especially for those coming from Kuwait and other areas of tension. Saudi Arabia has given us cooperation.

"The Thai Government has adopted plans to help Thai workers in Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait. The BBC radio has been asked to relay information to Thai workers in Saudi Arabia. The embassy has also issued newsletters informing employers on the need for their cooperation with workers, including giving them their own passports for readiness in case of emergency. Besides, the Thai Embassy has requested cooperation from Saudi Arabia to grant the "reentry" visas to the workers so that they can return for work. There are several other details to work out with employers on this matter.

"Thai workers have been asked not to be overly frightened as the situation is not so bad. The embassy is sending officials, despite the fact that the number of them is limited, to meet workers at major grouping points. It will also make use of the service of BBC to contact and coordinate with workers," the Thai ambassador in Saudi Arabia said.

ASEAN Opposes Moving Embassies

BK1108025190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Aug 90 p 1

[Text] ASEAN countries agreed yesterday not to move their embassies from Kuwait to Baghdad to demonstrate their rejection of Iraq's annexation of the emirate, informed sources said. The unofficial stance was reached during a meeting among ASEAN's diplomats in Bangkok, who were summoned to the Foreign Ministry yesterday to make an assessment concerning the occupation of Kuwait by Iraqi troops.

The sources said the meeting agreed that to move the embassies to Baghdad as requested by the Iraqi Government would be tantamount to recognizing Iraq's claims to Kuwait. ASEAN's official response on the matter will be announced soon.

The Iraqi Government on Thursday "advised" in a letter that diplomatic missions would no longer have any "official obligations" in Kuwait City and requested that the affairs of the Kuwait missions be transferred to Baghdad by Aug 24.

The sources said the meeting yesterday agreed that ASEAN countries should hold out against following the Iraqi request, but would pull their diplomatic missions out of Kuwait if Iraq insisted or if the situation in the country worsened.

The ASEAN diplomats meeting also expressed their "deepest concern" over the fate of their countrymen working in the occupied Gulf state. They said a study should be taken on how to implement ASEAN's stance without harming workers from member countries in Kuwait.

The sources said the ASEAN members also decided that the decision to withdraw diplomatic missions in Kuwait depended on the individual country.

Thailand has about 7,000 workers in Kuwait, while the Philippines has about 60-80,000. Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore have 3,000, 300, and 6 workers respectively. The Thai Government will probably announce a contingency plan to evacuate Thai workers in Kuwait on Tuesday, said the sources, who added that negotiations between Bangkok and Baghdad are now underway to evacuate the workers through Iraq or Jordan. The Hyundai Co of Korea has agreed to negotiate with Baghdad about evacuating its 1,200 Thai employees in Kuwait to Bangkok on Thai Airways International, the sources said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Somphong Faichampa confirmed that ASEAN nations had received the Iraqi Government's letter about transferring the responsibilities of diplomatic missions in Kuwait, which he called a "suggestion." He declined to say how ASEAN might officially respond to the request. The spokesman reiterated that any action to be taken by Thailand would take into account the safety of Thai workers as the priority and would not endanger the country's economic or political interests.

Deputy Foreign Minister Meets Official in Iran

BK1108152790 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Second Lieutenant Praphat Limpaphan met his Iranian counterpart, 'Ala 'Eddin Borujerdi, during his current visit to Teheran. The two ministers exchanged views on trade, investment and security issues. Thailand frankly raised the problems of unrest in southern Thailand to Iran. The two-hour meeting, which took place at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, was reportedly conducted in a formal atmosphere.

Talks between the two ministers covered trade and investment. Trade between the countries is at a low volume. Iran has expressed an interest in setting up an oil depot in Thailand under the southern seaboard development program, while Thailand mentioned Iran's support to the fundamentalist Muslims in the south. Thailand has requested the Iranian Government to go through government channels in its activities with Thailand.

Concerning negative reports about Thailand, the deputy foreign minister has invited Iran to send representatives to make on the spot checks in Thailand. The Iranian delegation has expressed interest in this issue, but has not committed itself to any plan or visit.

Thailand has asked Iran to coordinate directly with the Thai Government on efforts to promote bilateral relations. Thailand also expressed views that with an expansion in trade and investment, the problem of security would automatically become less important.

Another interesting point in the discussion was Thailand's request for possible Iranian help in evacuating Thai workers from sensitive areas in case of a crisis [resulting from the Iraq-Kuwait issue]. Iran has suggested that it could use lighter ships to evacuate Thai workers. This represents a new turn in relations between the two countries.

The Thai deputy foreign minister will also call on the Iranian foreign minister, commerce minister, and president of the Board of Trade of Iran. The topics of discussion will include the rice trade, textiles, and automobile spare parts, as well as the security problem.

Phnom Penh Reportedly Ready To Meet Coalition

BK1108170190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1643 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Bangkok, August 11 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh government has indicated it is willing to hold talks with Cambodia's tripartite resistance coalition on the issue of setting up a supreme national council (SNC), a top Thai official said Saturday. Phansak Winyarat, chief of Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's advisory board, said Cambodia's Deputy Foreign Minister Sok An indicated after flying here Wednesday from Ho Chi Minh City that Phnom Penh favoured holding talks with the resistance over setting up the SNC.

Mr Phansak, in a telephone interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, said he and Kraisak Chunhawan, son and advisor on economic affairs of Mr. Chatchai, were told of Phnom Penh's decision during two days of talks here with Mr. Sok An.

Mr. Sok An was quoted as saying he hoped the resistance parties would agree to join the talks and observe a voluntary cease-fire. He also said his government had attached importance to the agreement signed in Tokyo in June between resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen.

The Tokyo agreement calls for voluntary military disengagement and the setting up of the SNC to pave the way for U.N.-supervised general elections in war-torn Cambodia.

The resistance coalition, made up of two non-communist factions headed by Cambodian guerrilla leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk and former Premier Son Sann, and the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge, has been fighting an 11-year-old civil war to oust the Phnom Penh Government installed by Vietnam in January 1979.

The Khmer Rouge boycotted the signing of the Tokyo accord on grounds that the SNC, slated to comprise six Phnom Penh representatives and an equal number for the entire guerrilla coalition, failed to provide equal representation for each of the three resistance factions and the Phnom Penh government.

A Thai Foreign Ministry official was quoted by a local paper on Saturday as saying that Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, as co-ordinating chairman of the Paris Conference on Cambodia, was expected to call a meeting among the four factions soon to discuss the SNC. He also said although differences on the makeup of SNC existed, all the four factions now supported the U.N. Security Council's call for holding a first SNC meeting.

Observers here said Mr. Hun Sen has adopted a more conciliatory stance since his recent rejection of a call by Mr. Son Sann to hold talks on the makeup of SNC on the grounds that the issue had already been agreed in Tokyo.

Mr. Phansak said Mr. Sok an had told him that Phnom Penh leaders had found "positive aspects" in the Security Council's proposal on the SNC and the peace process, which he believed could be further explored at the first SNC meeting. Mr. Sok An was quoted as saying his government believed such a meeting would pave the way for free and fair elections in Cambodia.

Bangkok-based diplomats, quoted by the local press, said Mr. Sok An's visit was seen as part of the on-going diplomacy aimed at maintaining dialogue and momentum in the peace process on Cambodia. They also said Phnom Penh's decision to attend the talks was in response to the calls made by both the Association of East Asian Nations and the U.N. Security Council to set up the SNC as quickly as possible to work with the United Nations in the peace process.

The Khmer Rouge, having made fresh and impressive military gains in Cambodia during the past week, have said they would attend the meeting to set up the SNC under the framework of the "Paris conference"—its code term for equal representation for each of the four parties.

Mr. Sok An left here for Phnom Penh on Saturday.

U.S., Japan Efforts on Cambodia Discussed

BK0708014990 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Aug 90 p 8

[Article by Kawi Chongkitthawon entitled: "New Joint Effort To End Khmer War"]

[Text] Thailand and the world's two leading industrialized countries, the United States and Japan, are working together to bring an end to the 11-year-old Cambodian war. This new "triangular" cooperation has been strengthened by Washington's recent shift in its Cambodian policy and Tokyo's more assertive role in regional

politics. This cooperation, which cuts through normal diplomatic channels, started out at the informal level four months ago. Gradually, it has developed into a full-fledged policy on Cambodia shared by the three countries.

In retrospect, no one should have been surprised when Prime Minister Gen [General] Chatchai Chunhawan was the only ASEAN leader to support the US decision to withdraw its recognition of the Cambodian resistance coalition's seat in the United Nations when it was announced by US Secretary of State James Baker on July 18. The United States also said it would open a dialogue with Hanoi on Cambodia. The US move was a big boost for Thailand's Cambodia policy after suffering weeks of uncertainty brought on by domestic problems and Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut's resignation as deputy prime minister and defence minister in June.

Two months before Washington announced its policy shift, Richard Solomon, assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, told Chatchai during a visit to Bangkok in mid-May that the United States supported Chatchai's initiatives in the peace process which included organizing meetings between Phnom Penh Premier Hun Sen and resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk and a call for a ceasefire. Chatchai's initiatives have also included opening dialogues with Phnom Penh and Hanoi on the Cambodian conflict. Solomon's statement, tentative though it was, was a departure from past US policy to strictly adhere to ASEAN's measures to isolate Vietnam.

At the end of May, Phansak Winyarat, chief of the PM's [Prime Minister's] policy advisory team at Baan Phitsanulok, met secretly with Solomon in Rome to work out a link between the formation of a supreme national council [SNC] and agreements on a ceasefire—which later formed the gist of the Tokyo accord. Their effort was part of a joint call adopted by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council in June.

Before Baker announced the new US policy on Cambodia, this behind-the scenes manoeuvring was the most significant display of US support for Thai initiatives.

It is obvious now that the new US policy demonstrates the depth of cooperation on Cambodia between Bangkok and Washington on one hand, and between Bangkok and Tokyo on the other. Because of the informal way it started, its extent and seriousness have not been acknowledged by the Thai Foreign Ministry. Not long ago, the ministry had even sought to play down the possibility of any changes in US policy on Cambodia or on Japan's desire for a more active role in the peace process.

It is well known that Thailand and Japan worked together to organize the Tokyo meeting. At first, the accord signed at this meeting by Sihanouk and Hun Sen was ridiculed by several other concerned parties, especially some ASEAN members and China. The main reason was that the Khmer Rouge boycotted the accord. In retrospect, the Khmer Rouge made a big political blunder because its boycott highlighted the group's intentions to delay a diplomatic settlement in order to continue its military actions.

As it turned out, the Tokyo meeting served as the launching pad for Japan's new role in the Cambodian peace process. Interestingly, both Thai and Japanese leaders denied the truth that the Tokyo meeting was the brainchild of Japan. Before Japan had been reluctant to participate in the peace process because of its fear that Southeast Asia countries would see it as interfering in regional politics.

The meeting also served to enhance relations between Japan and Thailand. In a letter to Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu dated June 11, Chatchai exulted on the "incomparable cooperation" between Thailand Japan on Cambodia, which he described as "epoch-making" in the history of Thai-Japanese relations.

Both Kaifu and Chatchai had already established a strong personal rapport. Kaifu is schedueld to stop in Bangkok for a meeting with Chatchai August 14-15 on his way to the Middle East. It will be the fourth meeting between the two leaders since Kaifu became prime minister last year.

The "triangular" effort is now focussed on the establishment of a supreme national council in Cambodia. Although the July 31 deadline set by the Tokyo accord for setting up the SNC has already expired, the three countries are now contemplating various options for bringing together all four warring factions into a national council to present Cambodia at the upcoming UN General assembly.

The first option is for the five permanent members of the UN Security Coucil to meet with the four Cambodian factions. But the failure of the factions to meet with the Perm Five month has hardened the Perm Five's position against the three-party resistance coalition led by Prince Sihanouk.

Western diplomats believe that if the resistance coalition lost its UN recognition, all four factions would be left with the same status in the eyes of the United Nations. The iegitimacy of the Phnom Penh government to represent Cambodia has never been recognized by the United Nations or in other previous international forums such as the Jakarta peace talks. The Perm Five therefore would have an easier time calling upon the fations to attend a meeting if all had equal status, diplomats believe. It is this idea that has prompted many Western countries to withdraw their recognition of the resistance coalition.

The second option is to convene a four-faction meeting through the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC). The PICC is the only international forum that recognizes the Hun Sen government.

The last option would require Thailand and Indonesia to bring the warring Cambodian factions together to discuss the SNC. At ASEAN's annual meeting last month, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas was given a mandate by ASEAN to renew peace talks among the Cambodian groups.

In the next week or two, Thailand and Japan will likely intensify their cooperation on Cambodia. Individually the two countries will step up contacts with the Phnom Penh government. A Japanese fact-finding mission to Phnom Penh later this week should be viewed in this context. It is likely that in the near future the United States will join Thailand and Japan in directly contacting Phnom Penh.

Troops Seize 'Bandit Camp' Following Clash

BK0108024790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Aug 90 p 5

[Text] Narathiwat—Troops yesterday seized a bandit camp after a brief clash in Ra-ngae District.

The clash took place between a patrol led by Capt [Captain] Wichan Suksom of the 4053rd Infantry Company and a group of 8-10 bandits led by Bahari Khoknibong of the Pattani United Liberation Organisation (PULO) about two kilometres east of Ban Ba-ngo Kubo in Tambon Bo-ngo. After the 15-minute skirmish, the patrol seized a camp which comprised seven huts.

The attack was part of a campaign codenamed "Yutthachai 33" by government forces against southern bandits in Pattani, Narathiwat and Yala province. About 2,000 members of six infantry companies, 22 paramilitary ranger companies and three Marine units have been mobilised for the three-month campaign which began last Saturday.

Vietnam

Meeting Held in Bangkok With U.S. Experts

BK1208105790 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Vietnamese and American specialists met in Bangkok last week to review the implementation of the program on resettlement in the United States of those Vietnamese who have been set free from reeducation centers.

Also in Bangkok late last week, Vietnamese and American specialists exchanged measures aimed at speeding up the Orderly Departure Program—ODP. These meetings took place in a constructive atmoshere and obtained effective results.

Do Muoi Hails Li Peng's Remarks on Ties

BK1308122190 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign sources reported that during his Singapore visit to discuss the establishment of relations between China and Singapore, China's Li Peng declared China's readiness to normalize its relations with Vietnam and to negotiate other issues, including the dispute over the Truong Sa or Spratly archipelago.

Chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers Do Muoi hailed this declaration by the Chinese premier. In an interview granted to the VIETNAMESE NEWS AGENCY, Chairman Do Muoi added that this was time and again proposed by the Vietnamese Government who always hopes for an early settlement.

Vietnam held that the normalization of relations between Vietnam and China totally responded to the interests of the two peoples and contributed to consolidating peace and stability in the region. Vietnam pointed it out that the issue of Truong Sa archipelago as well as other differences should be settled through peaceful negotiations.

Minister Denounces Anti-Vietnam Campaigns

BK1308091190 Hanoi VNA in English 0715 GMT 13 Aug 90

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 13—Minister of Interior Mai Chi Tho, Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, has denounced the imperialist and reactionary forces for intensifying their sabotage and subversive schemes and acts against Vietnam.

In an article carried in the army paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN today marking the 45th founding anniversary of the People's Security Service (August 18), Mai Chi Tho wrote: "The enemy's psychological warfare centers outside Vietnam have launched repeated anti-Vietnam campaigns. Through modern communications means and newspapers, letters and video tapes brought to Vietnam, they have conducted virulent attacks against Marxism-Leninism and the party's leadership, blaming all socioeconomic difficulties on the Communist Party of Vietnam in order to demand political pluralism, a multi-party system and bourgeois-type democracy. They organized the 'flame transfer to the homeland' and the 'small winds add up to a hurricane' campaigns with the aim of isolating the communist party and neutralizing and paralysing the people's army and the people's security forces. They directly sent reactionary literature to many army units and called for the latter's cooperation to 'overthrow' the regime.

The enemy's intelligence services have deployed a network of spies around our country many of whom were notorious experts in subversion and members of the so-called 'Phoenix' spy organization in South Vietnam

during the U.S. war of aggression. They are burning to see the situation in Indochina develop according to their wish. Not a few spies came to Vietnam in the guise of tourists or members of economic, charity or religious institutions, cultural and scientific cooperation teams, journalists.... They tried to contact former members of the Saigon army and administration who refused to mend their ways and members of the old reactionary parties and religious organizations, and also discontents and degenerates.

At the same time, the reactionaries among the Vietnamese community abroad think it is time for them to act. They held meetings, issued statements, founded organizations and sent their lackeys to the country to establish ties. However, thanks to the vigilance and the good coordination of our army and security forces and the support of the people, the enemy's schemes and organizations have been discovered and destroyed before they could do any serious harm.

"No matter how crafty and insidious their schemes may be, the imperialists cannot escape the bitter failure their predecessors have experienced," Mai Chi Tho concluded.

Oil Exploration Contract With Belgian Firm

BK0908083490 Hanoi VNA in English 0737 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 9—A seismic option and product-sharing contract was signed here yesterday by Truong Thien, president of PETROVIETNAM, and H. Bandeira Vieira, executive director of PETROFINA Exploration, Belgium.

Under the contract, PETROFINA, within 18 months from the date of issue of investment license, will carry out seismic explorations at a number of oil and natural gas blocks on Vietnam's southern continental shelf. Then PETROFINA will depend on the results of the explorations to select at certain block of about 10,000 square kilometers for oil and natural gas exploration and exploitation on a product-sharing basis.

This contract, the first of its kind ever signed by PETROVIETNAM with a foreign company, is the ninth oil joint venture with foreign partners since May 1988.

The signing ceremony was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Heavy Industry and the charge d'affaires of the Belgian Embassy here.

Do Muoi Visits City Federation of Labor Unions

BK1208103590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Council of Ministers Chairman Do Muoi paid a working visit to the Ho Chi Minh City Federation of Labor Unions yesterday afternoon, 5 August.

Chairman Do Muoi listened attentively for four hours to the reports of various leading comrades of the city Federation of Labor Unions; sought to know more about the welfare, thinking, and aspirations of the working class, and the laboring people of various strata in the city. He exchanged views over various urgent issues confronting the country's industrial and trade center.

The chairman held that the renovation process is generating a new momentum for the entire society while creating a new social situation, including difficulties and negative phenomena. Therefore, we must seek to understand and analyze the situation if we are to come up with positive measures instead of showing too much worry when faced with difficulties.

As for the concern of the city's workers and laboring people over a difficult production situation, Chairman Do Muoi said: At present, in the country, particularly in the Mekong River Delta, agricultural production is developing. The agricultural, forestry, and fishery sector's demand for industrial assistance is very great. Industry production, however, is on a decline. We should consider this.

The chairman urged: As an industrial center of the entire country, Ho Chi Minh City must look into demands of the rural area and the domestic market and into other demands by agriculture, forestry, and fishery so it can plan actions to be taken by the working class. This is the duty and the working purpose of the city Federation of Labor Unions as well as of various labor unions at all levels. This is also the orientation for solving employment and caring for the welfare of workers and the laboring people.

In a manner which is both cordial and serious, the comrade chairman of the Council of Ministers asked the leading comrades of the city Federation of Labor Unions: What does the city's working class think when fishermen in various localities, because their equipment is inadequate and obsolete, have to resort to the use of explosives and spotlights to catch fish, thus draining the source of aquatic animals. What did you, comrades, do to help the peasants in the Mekong River Delta obtain equipment needed to process their farm produce and overcome their run-down living conditions, or would you only demand from them rice, meat, and good raw materials? If you, comrades, failed to meet their needs in production and life and left them to care for themselves, then how could you develop the role of the city as an industrial center?

Chairman Do Muoi analyzed the rampant state of imported goods, saying it is causing domestic production to reach stagnation, the country to lose its national revenue, and more negative phenomena to develop in society. He asked trade union organizations to motivate workers and the laboring people to actively respond to the Council of Ministers' policy to use local goods and refrain from importing commodities that can be produced locally or that are regarded as luxuries.

The chairman said: While claiming shortage of funds for production, we have spent hundreds of millions of dong

of hard currency importing cigarettes, refreshment drinks, and even picked onions and used clothing. This is a matter that we should think about if we are to use our hard currencies correctly. This is also a matter of the struggle of who will triumph over whom on the economic front and in the markets. Ho Chi Minh City must serve as a strategic strongpoint in this struggle. The city must develop its strengths in its material bases and in its contingents of workers and scientist and technical cadres in order to step up production, especially the processing industry, if we are to increase the use-value and the surplus value of various products while meeting the people's consumption demands and accumulating wealth for the country.

Chairman Do Muoi took note of various suggestions from the city Federation of Labor Unions and promised to pass them on to responsible organs for resolution. He also said: As society is moving forward and there are many new things in trade union activities, trade union cadres must undertake constant study to learn effective working methods.

State Council Communique on Taxes, Lao Visit

BK1008074590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Communique of the Council of State on its 8 August meeting]

[Text] The Council of State met on 8 August 1990 under the direction of Chairman Vo Chi Cong.

1. Implementing a resolution of the National Assembly's seventh session and after hearing a report of the Council of Ministers and the views presented by the National Assembly Economic, Planning, and Budget Commission, the Council of State decided to make public in mid-August 1990 the turnover, income, and special consumption tax laws passed by the National Assembly. The three tax laws will become effective beginning 1 October 1990. It is necessary for the Council of Ministers to promptly issue legal documents to guarantee strict implementation of these tax laws.

2. At the recommendation of the Council of Ministers and after hearing the views presented by representatives of the National Assembly Economic, Planning, and Budget Commission and Judiciary Commission, the Council of State decided to adjust the tax rates on commercial import and export products in order to make the import-export tax system consistent with actual import-export activities, promote business and production operations, and expand external economic relations.

3. The Council of State was briefed on the results of an official friendship visit to our country from 23-28 July 1990 by Comrade Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the People's Supreme Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee. The Council of State warmly welcomed and highly valued the results of the visit, regarding this as an important event marking the fine development of the special solidarity and friendship and the multifaceted cooperation between the National Assemblies and peoples of Vietnam and Laos.

4. Minister Nguyen Canh Dinh, chairman of the Central Typhoon and Flood Control Committee, briefed the Council of State on efforts to overcome the consequences of flash floods in Lai Chau Province and on precautions against typhoons and floods in localities. The Council of State commended compatriots, cadres, and combatants of different ethnic minority groups in Lai Chau Province and a number of other localities for their revolutionary traditions, spirit of solidarity and mutual assistance, and achievements in overcoming the aftermaths of flash floods step-by-step. The Council of State called on all sectors and echelons, compatriots and combatants nationwide, overseas Vietnamese, international organizations, and friends all over the world to continue lending assistance to people in Lai Chau Province so they can overcome difficulties and quickly normalize their production and daily activities.

Our country is now in the season of torrential rains and strong typhoons and flash floods. The Council of State would like to remind all sectors and people's councils and people's committees at all levels of the need to draw experiences from recent anti-flash flood activities and participate more actively in dam and dike protection. Plans must be worked out to protect production facilities and the people from flash floods and to reduce the damage caused by natural disasters.

5. The Council of State decided to send a number of delegations to oversee the implementation of various socioeconomic development projects and the law on organization of people's councils and people's committees by a number of localities.

Thai Paper Reports Return of Le Duc Tho

BK0808020990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Aug 90 p 4

[Text] Le Duc Tho, who turned down the Nobel Peace Prize in 1972, has returned to Vietnam after major cancer treatment in France, a Vietnamese source said

"His cancer is in remission," said the source of Mr Tho, 79, who was removed from the Communist Party politburo in 1986. But the source said doctors had told the former leader to expect the disease to recur.

Mr Tho is considered by many Vietnamese and others to be the ideological leader of the conservative wing of the Communist Party, which is opposed to many parts of the Doi Moi economic and political reform programme.

Once the fifth-ranking communist in Vietnam, Mr Tho was forced to step down at a party congress nearly four years ago when reformers ordered sweeping changes to personnel and policy.

He has been widely seen as a power behind the scenes since then, however, supposedly working to oppose some of the reform schemes through party officials he appointed during a lengthy career dating back to before the war against the French. His brother, Mai Chi Tho, is a politburo member and minister of interior.

Mr Tho, who will be 80 in October, refused the Nobel Prize in 1972 after being named co-winner with US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Australia

Reportage on Middle East Situation Continues

Hawke: Japan May Join Gulf Force

BK1008115590 Hong Kong AFP in English 1138 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Canberra, Aug 10 (AFP)—Prime Minister Bob Hawke indicated Friday that Canada, Western European nations and Japan may join the international naval fleet in the Gulf.

In an interview screened by the Australian Broadcasting Corp., Mr. Hawke said he had held discussions with Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. "I can say they are deeply in the process of considering their position now," he said. Mr. Hawke was interviewed after announcing his decision to order three Australian warships to the Gulf to join the multinational fleet.

He said, "It is not for me to announce what will come out of Canada, but I believe from the conversations I've had with Prime Minister Mulroney that you will see Canadian decisions not inconsistent with what we have done."

He also said members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) were meeting Friday to discuss their involvement, following unilateral announcements by Britain, Italy and the Netherlands. "So I have no doubt we will see a significant Western European involvement," he said.

Asked whether Japan might also become involved, Mr. Hawke said he had discussed the issue with U.S. President George Bush. "I cannot go into detail, but it is possible that there may be some Japanese involvement", he said. "The defence of all nations is involved in ensuring that aggression (in the Gulf) is checked," Mr. Hawke said.

He also said he had received a call from New Zealand Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer, who said New Zealand also wanted to do something. "They will be considering the matter on Monday but they haven't got naval assets capable of doing what we're doing," Mr. Hawke said.

He said Mr. Palmer, who had "expressed his approval" for the Australian intervention, had raised the question of whether the New Zealand Navy might "pick up some vacuum left by the despatch of our forces."

Evans Supports Economic Sanctions

BK1108070990 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] The Australian foreign minister, Senator Gareth Evans, has told reporters in Colombo that he fully supports the international economic sanctions against Iraq. He even (?vows) they are at the expense of Australia's wheat exports. Senator Evans says Australia stands to incur a very significant economic loss as a result of the sanctions policy, that wheat exports to Iraq are worth $400 million each year. However, Senator Evans added that he believed Australia had a responsibility as a good international citizen to contribute towards the enforcement of the economic embargo. The Australian foreign minister is in Sri Lanka as part of a tour of the countries in the South Asia region.

Government Registers Protests

BK1108094290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0912 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Canberra, Aug 11 (AFP)—Australians in Saudi Arabia have expressed concern that they could not flee the Middle Eastern country if Iraq attacked because they lacked essential travel documents, officials said here Saturday. Geoff Leach, a foreign affairs spokesman, said the Australian Government had expressed these fears to Saudi authorities. Foreign workers often have to surrender passports as part of the arrangements of working in the oil-rich nation.

The United States is assembling a military force to protect Saudi Arabia, tipped to be Iraq's next target following the August 2 invasion of Kuwait. Australia is sending three warships to the Gulf to help deter further Iraqi thrusts.

"We have registered with authorities in Riyadh the concerns being expressed by a number of Australians working in Saudi Arabia and also from their relatives in Australia that they may not be able to travel freely if they wish," Mr. Leach said. They feared they might be restricted "because their passports are being retained or they are not in possession of travel documents," he said by phone. There could be up to 3,000 Australians in Saudi Arabia, he said.

"The situation is so uncertain that we have advised Australians to move out of the eastern area of Saudi Arabia."

About 58 Australians were thought to be trapped in Iraq and another 69 in Kuwait since Iraq's decision to close the borders, Mr. Leach said. Iraq's ambassador here, 'Afif 'Isa Al-Rawi, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry Friday to hear Canberra's protest over the Australians' stranding. "We said we held the Iraq Government responsible for their safety," Mr. Leach said.

There had been no indications that the sending of warships would place Australians in the Gulf in greater danger, he said. The ships, Australia's most significant deployment since its involvement in Vietnam, are due to leave Monday.

Evans on Citizens in Region

BK1208070290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0450 GMT 12 Aug 90

[Text] Sydney, Aug 12 (AFP)—The estimated 127 Australians trapped in Kuwait and Iraq were "for all practical purposes" being held as hostages, Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said Sunday.

Mr. Evans was responding to a question during a television interview about whether the government thought the estimated 58 Australians stranded in Iraq and 69 still in Kuwait were being held hostage by Iraq.

"That's one way of describing it ... For all practical purposes that's the case," he said. Baghdad has closed all the borders and international airports in Iraq and Kuwait, following its recent invasion of its Middle East neighbour.

Mr. Evans said that Australian lives were at risk, but the danger would be greater if full-scale war broke out, an event which Canberra's support of the Gulf naval blockade would help prevent.

Two Australian warships and a navy supply vessel leave here Monday to join the multinational military force being assembled in the Gulf to deter Iraq from attacking Saudi Arabia, tipped to be Baghdad's next target.

Mr. Evans said Australia's "prima facie" position on hostage-takers was to never yield to their demands. "That's the starting point obviously with which you approach all these issues, and it may well be the finishing point," he said.

Navy Warships Leave for Gulf

BK1308011590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0038 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Sydney, Aug 13 (AFP)—Two Royal Australian Navy warships left here Monday to join a Western fleet being massed in the Gulf to deter further Iraqi aggression. Prime Minister Bob Hawke farewelled the two guided missile frigates, HMAS Darwin and HMAS Adelaide, which are to be followed on Tuesday by the supply ship HMAS Success.

"You are leaving Australia to undertake an important mission," Mr. Hawke told about 600 sailors aboard the Australian vessels. "We know that you will do it well, and you leave with the best wishes of all Australians. Bon voyage."

Several anti-war groups protested on sea and land as the frigates steamed out of Sydney Harbour on their 22-day voyage to the Gulf where they will join other military forces from Britain, France and the United States. Mr. Hawke committed the Australian contribution to the Gulf force following a telephone conversation on Friday with U.S. President George Bush.

The Adelaide commander, Captain Bill Dovers, said Monday that the Australian ships would remain under Australian command in the Gulf. "We are not anticipating a hot war situation," he said in a radio interview. Capt. Dovers said his ship was functioning at peace-time operational levels but would "sharpen up our skills to war-time levels" during the three-week voyage.

Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said Sunday that 127 Australians were considered "for all practical purposes" to be held hostage by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. The government believes there are 58 Australians still in Iraq and 69 in Kuwait.

Hundreds of Australian workers are also being evacuated from Saudi Arabia, which faces a threat from more than 100,000 Iraqi troops massed across its border.

Evans on Sending Warships

BK1308061290 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] The foreign minister, Senator Evans, says Australia's decision to send warships to the Gulf will not make the situation worse for Australians in the region. Senator Evans says that there is no indication that Iraq intends to retaliate against the 130 Australians in Iraq and Kuwait. He says there are an enormous number of nations contributing to the military action and says there is no particular reason for Australians to be singled out.

Meanwhile the prime minister, Mr. Hawke, has farewelled two Australian Navy frigates which set sail today for the Gulf. In a ceremony on board the frigate Darwin, Mr. Hawke said the ships and crew are undertaking an extremely important mission. The frigates Darwin and Adelaide had been waiting before leaving Sydney and they will be followed tomorrow by a Navy supply ship for the voyage to the Gulf expected to take about three weeks.

Chinese Students Protest PRC Embassy Opening

BK1008114590 Hong Kong AFP in English 1013 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Canberra, Aug 10 (AFP)—Protesting Chinese students and Australia's senior politicians converged here Friday at the opening of a new Chinese Embassy building. An acting foreign minister, a shadow minister and a former prime minister represented Australia, while a group of 13 Chinese students and eight representatives of the Australia Tibet Council held a silent protest.

The new purpose-built embassy, an ornate, traditional building, replaces a converted motel that was considered to have outlived its usefulness.

Student spokesman Jie Gao condemned Acting Foreign Minister Michael Duffy's attendance, which Prime Minister Bob Hawke earlier said was "appropriate."

Former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam, who recently visited China, and opposition foreign affairs spokesman Robert Hill also watched China's Vice Foreign Minister Liu Huaqiu perform the opening ceremony.

The protesters said they were concerned that Mr. Liu's visit signalled Australia's return to "business as usual" with China, pushing last year's Tiananmen Square massacre into the background.

Mr. Hawke earlier told a press conference Australia was walking a "sometimes difficult line," conducting relations in a way that meant China would remain open to the rest of the world yet be reminded that the massacre was not forgotten.

The Australia Tibet Council said in a statement that all who attended the opening should share the shame of the Beijing regime, which was waging a "campaign of terror and oppression in Tibet."

Mr. Jie said later he had hoped more students would attend the protest. But he said some students may have feared retribution for their families in China if they were seen demonstrating publicly, while others had not received sufficient notice of the rally.

Media representatives, who were banned from the proceedings, crowded outside the embassy gates.

New Zealand

No Persian Gulf Role Yet; U.S. 'Snub' Denied

BK1108013790 Hong Kong AFP in English 1931 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Auckland, New Zealand, Aug. 10 (AFP)—New Zealand Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer was on the defensive here Friday night over the lack of any role for New Zealand in the Middle East crisis. He has denied any snub is intended by the United States, but both major television networks here gave heavy play to Australia being invited to send naval vessels to the Persian Gulf, suggesting New Zealand had been left out.

But it appears that New Zealand's nuclear-free laws, passed by Mr. Palmer's government, make it illegal for New Zealand forces to cooperate with nuclear-capable powers.

Until Vietnam, New Zealand had prided itself on being a participant in every major war since the Anglo-Boer War—and takes pride in the fact that it declared war on Adolf Hitler's Germany before Britain or France.

The anti-nuclear laws have kept U.S. warships from New Zealand ports and effectively broken up the ANZUS pact joining Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

Speaking Friday night on Television New Zealand (TVNZ), Mr. Palmer said it was wrong to say the country's anti-nuclear laws meant it could not take part in Middle East operations. "It isn't correct to say the Americans have snubbed us," Mr. Palmer said, adding that the question was what New Zealand could provide. "There are a wide range of possibilities," he said.

New Zealand currently has only four aging frigates, which, Mr. Palmer said, were very vulnerable to Exocet missiles and lacked adequate defences.

When New Zealand responded, it would be helpful and appropriate, he said, adding: "What we want to see is peace, not war."

But if a TVNZ street poll broadcast here was any indication, New Zealanders had no wish to see local forces playing a Mideast role. One man said it was a war for big nations, while a woman said New Zealand had declared itself a pacifist nation and should stick to it.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Palmer said in a statement that he had discussed with Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke Canberra's decision to send two frigates to join the multinational naval blockade in the Gulf.

Papua New Guinea

Police Chief Said To Be Tried for Treason

BK1108012090 Hong Kong AFP in English 2047 GMT 11 Aug 90

[Text] Port Moresby, Aug 10 (AFP)—Sacked Papua New Guinea Police Commissioner Paul Tohian was committed for trial Friday on a charge of treason following an abortive attempt to overthrow Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu on March 14. The charge carries the death penalty.

Mr. Tohian, 41, is alleged to have ordered an armed police mobile squad and soldiers to accompany him to parliament house to arrest Mr. Namaliu and establish himself as leader.

Judge Iova Geita of Boroko District Court ruled that Mr. Tohian had a case to answer. The judge committed Mr. Tohian for trial on charges of treason and also of "treasonable crimes", which carry a penalty of life imprisonment, and adjourned proceedings to the national court on August 13.

It was alleged that Mr. Tohian "levied war against the queen and head of state in order by constraint or force to compel (her) to change her measures or counsels." Papua New Guinea is a member of the commonwealth and Queen Elizabeth is its head of state.

The prosecution alleged that Mr. Tohian armed himself with a 9-mm Hecklar Koch submachine gun and two loaded magazines for the venture. No pleas have been entered.

Mr. Tohian was the controller of the state of emergency on Bougainville and reportedly opposed the March cease-fire with rebel landowners that halted a 16-month secessionist war during which more than 80 people were killed.

Solomon Islands

Aid Talks With New Zealand Open in Honiara

BK1308064290 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Two days of aid talks have opened in Honiara between New Zealand and Solomon Island officials. The annual meeting began with a call from the Solomon Islands minister responsible for aid, Mr. Nathaniel Waena, for all aid donors to consider making advance payments for approved projects. He said the current practice of the Solomon Islands Government, using its funds and then being reimbursed, had caused a considerable economic strain on the country's resources.

Mr. Waena also called on New Zealand to provide more higher education scholarships for Solomon Islanders. Solomon Islands is proposing that New Zealand fund projects such as forestry and agriculture, education, health, finance, and public administration.

The director of New Zealand's Overseas Development Assistance Division, Mr. Roger Fail, said his country wanted to concentrate its aid on areas such as training and small-scale rural development, fields not normally addressed by larger aid donors. The talks end tomorrow.